

Minutes
28 October 2023
50+ Middlesex Country
Softball League Board Meeting

PRESENT

All team managers/representatives were present, less one team (Provident Bank) Attendance sheet was signed by all present. There were 12 voting members in attendance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-The **Treasurer's** Report and financial overview was given by Ed Mullen. Each attendee was given a statement sheet of the league's financial status.

-The **Field Coordinator** report was given by our Chairman, in lieu of the absence of our field coordinator, Kevin Wertz. The current main fields for the 2024 season will be:

-Warren Park (2),

-Phillips Park (1)

-Raritan Waterfront Park in South Amboy (2).

The option of using Municipal Field in Edison, Thompson Park, Johnson's Park and Veterans Park will remain alternative fields if needed. The fields behind Middlesex Community College are not available for the 2024 season.

-The **Chairman** informed the members that Kevin Wertz is recovering from medical issues and we all wished him well. John also recognized Kevin for his efforts in field coordination during the last season. John also thanked Mike Singer and Pat Douglas for their work behind-the-scenes efforts in their IT efforts in support of the league, Anthony Santorelli for his expenditure of time creating the season's playing schedule, John Primavera and his team of umpires for doing a superb job in providing excellent umpiring support, Ed Mullen in continuing the most difficult of task of managing all funds and performing all financial operations and Bernie McGuire for helping with field coordinating and his transition from league player to umpiring.

John indicated that we currently have 11 teams committed to the league. Communication received from Provident Bank indicated that they intend to field a team for the 2024 season. No final decision on the option of advertising on Face Book or other social media outlet to advertise for players or teams.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

League Website

-All members agreed that the current league website is not optimum or easy to navigate in its' present configuration. There was discussion on options and Bill D'Amico agreed to provide to Pat Douglas several websites that offer self-webpage development, as an option. Pat and Mike Singer will evaluate the options of an easier to navigate website.

Championship Recognition.

-A discussion regarding recognition of the two league champions ensued. After a short discussion on the pros and cons, a vote was taken and the decision to provide some form of material recognition was rejected.

RULES REVIEW/PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

Green Grass Rule

-A discussion of maintaining or discontinuing the Green Grass rule was initiated. The majority of the comments were in favor of eliminating the rule. A vote was taken and by unanimous vote, it was agreed to eliminate it from our league rules. This change will be reflected in the release of the league rules for the 2024 season.

Player Playoff Eligibility and Roster Composition

-A lengthy discussion occurred on player playoff eligibility and consideration of a roster refresh to occur midway through the season (1 July). Other ideas were raised. Specifically, adjusting the date of the roster freeze from completion of the 3rd week of scheduled play to the 5th week of scheduled play.

The voters decided to take to a vote two initiatives:

1. To be eligible for playoff competition, a roster player must participate a minimum of one scheduled weekend of play (2 games). By a majority vote, this rule addition passed.
2. Change the date of the team roster freeze from the 3rd week of scheduled play to the 5th week of scheduled play. By a majority vote, this rule change passed.

These two rule changes will be reflected in the release of the league rules for the 2024 season.

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD, NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

-John Mazur announced that he would be stepping down as Chairman after six years of board service. He further indicated that he, most likely, would no longer be playing in the league.

John nominated Bill D'Amico for the position of league Chairman. The nomination was second and by unanimous vote, Bill was voted in as the next league Chairman.

Ricky McMahon was nominated by Bill D'Amico for another term as the league Vice Chairman. Pat Douglas second the nomination and by unanimous vote, Ricky was voted back as the league Vice Chairman.

Pat Douglas and Joe Siecinski were nominated by Bill D'Amico for another term as league Board Members. Their nominations were seconded by Ricky McMahon and John Mazur respectfully and by unanimous vote, Pat and Joe were voted back as league Board Members

Ed Mullen has graciously agreed to stay on as the League Treasure

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25.

The next league meeting will be held in the late January/February 2024 timeframe.