

**West Madison Little League**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
Sunday, August 8, 2010

**Members Present:** McNamara , Steeves, Jordan, Metcalf, Heneghan, Newburg, Tomczak, Smith, Wood, Battista. **Members Absent:** Hunter, Chitwood, Lenocho, Zwaska, Norton, Miller. **Guests:** None

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Heneghan at 6:35 PM

**Minutes of Previous Meetings:** minutes of June 1 and June 27 meetings were approved.

**Financial Reports:** Tomczak reported on various account balances. Battista briefly reviewed several items on the budget tracking report including Fall Ball registration income, which is right on budget. Request from Wood that we consider tracking revenue impact from scholarship program on future tracking reports.

**Tournament Team Update:** Smith reported all tournament teams should be finishing up today and all went well with the exception of not getting a 12 Open team in to Reedsburg, as well as not being able to field a 15 year old team for Reedsburg due to lack of player interest. He commented that the hosting of the State Jr and Sr tournaments went very well with many compliments received for overall facility, organization and grounds crew effort. Heneghan reported the two softball tnmt teams did well, with the Major team posting a 9-1 record and winning the inaugural WMLL Main Event tournemnt. Comments from teams about the facility at Forward Drive were so positive from visiting softball teams that it is likely this tnmt will be held here each year.

**Registration Update:** Battista reported we are at approximately 670 players. He discussed a request from East Madison LL to have their 2 Junior fall ball teams play some WMLL teams. Following lengthy discussion, it was agreed that WMLL would offer to host five games vs EMLL on Thursday nights from 9/2 thru 9/30, as that is the only open time slot we have. Decision not to ask teams to travel to EMLL since that was not offered as a possibility in our fall ball information packet.

**Other Business:**

**--- Tournament Team Travel Reimbursement:** lengthy discussion related to consideration of a policy change that would allow for teams to be partially reimbursed for travel to State tournaments located more than 150 miles from Madison (current policy offers reimbursement only for teams advancing beyond the State tnmt). Decision to ask Tomczak to review past payment history to teams advancing past the State tnmt level and report back at a future meeting for further consideration. General agreement that WMLL would reimburse the 11 year old American tnmt team for advancing to the State Tnmt in Antigo in an amount equal to the refunds WMLL will receive from Reedsburg and Beaver Dam tournament, in which this team could no longer participate.

**--- Tournament Team Tryout Sequence:** discussion about sequencing the Badger Lg tryouts after the Senior Lg tryouts, just as the younger leagues are sequenced. Due to many considerations, especially when each of these seasons begins, it was decided to leave the decision up to the respective Lg Coordinators.

**--- Board Member Duties at Tournament Team Tryouts:** concensus to have Battista draft new wording for tournament team selection policies reflecting the board member's role as supervisory of the process, rather than actually involved in the evaluation and selection process. Draft language will be reported at next meeting.

**--- Umpire Coordination, Training, Pay Scale and Scheduling Issues:** after reviewing a variety of issues related to umpires, especcally scheduling and no-shows, it was agreed to organize a conference of interested parties to review the entire matter and bring back recommendations to the full board for consideration. Battista will arrange meeting time and location.

**--- Concession Volunteers for Playoff Games:** following discussion of the suggestion that volunteers not be required to work concessions during playoff games, it was agreed that, philosophically, the board was in

agreement. However, before a final decision is made for the 2011 season, concessions management will be asked to conduct a review and develop estimated costs of additional labor to hire staff during playoffs.

--- **Concession Team Treat Issues for Off-site Games:** this issue has been reviewed with Nate and there was general agreement that the league needs to define its policies more in detail should we have another season where off-site games are needed. In a typical season, there are not sufficient rainouts to cause games to be moved off-site, so hopefully this will not be a recurring issue. If it is, it will be addressed in detail and a plan of action prepared.

--- **Concession Team Parties vs Team Carry-In Parties:** Heneghan reviewed the issues. Consensus that we need to do more publicity and promotion of our new team party concept, especially to Team Reps starting mid-June, but we do not want to consider imposing a "no carry-in" policy for team parties.

--- **Review of Issues regarding non-WMLL team formation (mainly Babe Ruth) in the Jr and Sr Lg age groups:** several individuals have requested a meeting on this issue to investigate possible alternatives to reduce conflicts between WMLL and Babe Ruth leagues. Consensus to move forward with a meeting for discussion purposes. Battista will arrange meeting time and location.

--- **Review of WMLL Player Scholarship Program Eligibility:** agreement to have committee of volunteers meet to begin reviewing this matter. Committee will consist of Heneghan, Newburg, Woods, Leno, McNamara. Battista will arrange meeting time and location.

--- **Poster Display & Information Distribution Requests at WMLL:** a number of youth organizations have recently requested display of flyers and distribution of information at WMLL. Following discussion, it was agreed to continue monitoring the requests on an individual organization basis for appropriateness, and generally limiting this activity to youth sports organizations.

--- **Annual Meeting Plans:** According to WMLL Bylaws, Oct 2 or 9 are available dates for the annual meeting. Decision to schedule the meeting for 8 AM on Oct 2 to avoid conflicts with Badger football home games. Battista will make room arrangements.

--- **Misc Items:** Battista reported a request by Tom Bennett to consider adding a second Metro camp for 6-7 year olds in 2011. He reported back to Bennett that it may be difficult to consider for 2011 due to possible hosting of State 9-10 Yr Old tournament. He also noted that the District 4 Umpires have made an initial request to host an Umpire Camp in late June, 2011, at WMLL. Dave Thom, District Ump, will present a draft proposal to WMLL for consideration.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

**Next Meeting: Sunday, Sept 12, 6:30 PM, Vitense**