

District 8 Presidents Meeting

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Meeting Started @ 7:00pm

Attendance:

- **Leagues:** (ALL 12): Ballard, Magnolia, North Bothell, North Central Seattle, Northeast Seattle, Northwest Seattle, North Lake, Queen Anne, RUG, Shoreline, Northshore, Woodinville
- **D8 Staff** (not 100% certain, as some joined by cell number and name was not announced): Scott Brohaugh, Mark Ryder, Bev Newsome, Bill Denman, Carol Smith, Dotty Heberling, Brian Marantz, Ann Kilker, Jack Jones, Kyle Netterfield, Craig Lohr, Gary Wilder, Joanne Allen, David Lee, Tom Peckham

League Status:

- **Ballard:** Reorg meeting done. Officers elected. Biggest concern—are families willing to come back?
- **Magnolia:** Jesse is new President. Elections completed. Registration may start in January. Trending in correct direction.
- **North Bothell:** General Membership meeting done. Financial status is being worked on. Biggest concern is getting families to want to come back and play with issues with Covid-19. New President is Drew Bruns.
- **North Central:** General Membership meeting done. Officers elected. Waiting on guidance to see when we can start play which will guide registration. Hesitant to start if things are still unknown.
- **Northeast:** General Meeting is complete. Officers elected. Concerns about return to play.
- **Northlake:** General meeting done. Officers elected. Financial statement is ready to send. Survey sent to last year's families to find out when people are comfortable registering. Likely will slip registration start to December. May do a payment plan for registration. Concern about fields (NSD).
- **Northshore:** General Member meeting and elections done. Financial report—in good shape. Initial discussion with board - biggest concern is registration and starting when we know things are actually moving forward. Fields are also a concern (NSD), and spring school sports conflicting
- **Northwest:** General Membership meeting done. Elections of officers. Getting financial situation in place. Concerned about getting players back in place with continued uncertainty.
- **Queen Anne:** Election and general meeting is next week. Financials are being worked on. Same concerns as others. Concerns about getting everyone back to play and kids are being pulled in other directions
- **RUG:** Have not had our first meeting yet. Coming up next week. Still need a few positions filled (Registrar). Concerned about losing momentum with growth, modified rules, play against other spring sports.
- **Shoreline:** General meeting done. Officers elected. Financials not in yet. <Audio issues resulted in being unable to hear what you were concerned about>
- **Woodinville:** First Board meeting done. Have all positions filled. Getting financials finalized. Concerns about getting school fields from NSD.

Staff reports (for those online at time name was called):

- Scott (DA): 3rd year. Concerned about how LL rebounds and evolves.
- Mark (ADA Baseball): 3rd year. Concerned about school fields and sprint sports.
- Bev (Challenger): 50 years in LL. Concerned about what 2021 will actually bring, since its unknown.
- Bill (Tournaments): 17 years. Concerns about do kids want to return, stuck at home, not with their friends.
- Carol (Tournaments): Not sure what the future brings. Figure out as it goes what we can and can't do.
- Dotty (Treasurer); 3rd year. What is the new normal?
- Brian (Secretary): 3rd year. Concerned about getting fields and being able to actually let the play as close to normal as possible.
- Ann (Challenger): How to keep people interested.
- Kyle (Teenage Baseball): Excited for opportunities. Concerns about spring sports competing, and kids being stuck at home. Concerned about lost momentum and re-establish it.
- Gary (UIC Baseball): Regional Training cancelled/postponed again. Will need to adjust for things like rules clinics (virtual) and field mechanics clinics.
- David Lee (Umpire Consultant): Ditto
- Jack Jones (Umpire Consultant): Wants to umpire baseball!
- Tom Peckham (Umpire Consultant): Concerned about umpire training and if things start late.
- Joanne (Softball UIC): Returning. Concerned about how to start over since we lost last season.

District staff News:

- NW,NC, Magnolia, QA: Did some summer practice/small group training. AAA, Minors/Majors, Jr/Sr (Teenage). Masks, social distancing, hand sanitizer. Limited pitching and catching. 1-2 times per week for several weeks. There was a lot of interest in their leagues. Had a difficult time with younger kids to be able to make this work, thus focused on AAA and above. Scrimmages with modified rules. Some spectators—spread out. Temperature checks. Training and relaxed scrimmages. Actually still doing some into fall. Parents/families that did want to do this were very appreciative.
- Comments from latest WA State DA meeting: last meeting was a month ago. In January, went to San Diego for Western Regional Roundtable. LL Int'l reserves are very low. Steve Keener
- Brian: Reviewed current WA State Return to Play Guidelines for baseball and softball. Email was sent with link and PDF
- Carol: Reviewed "ToDo" items for Presidents and Leagues for September/October. List was sent to Presidents.
 - Volunteers
 - Updates to LL Data Center
 - Training
 - Coaching Communications
 - Tournaments
 - Financial Statements
 - Tax Returns

Treasurer Report:

- Discussion of expenses for 2020, including reductions in some areas due to Covid-19.
- Discussion of budget for 2021, and changes as a result of Covid-19.
- Balances:
 - Checking: \$25,980.21
 - Savings: \$16,413.83
 - Challenger: \$19,108.02
 - Total: \$61,502.06

Teenage Baseball:

- Discussion of how to overcome spring sports competition? Brainstorming Ideas:
- Jr/Sr
 - Can Sr baseball even work with spring sports? Football moved to Spring
 - Fields.
 - Loss of kids at Majors in 2020 who are now at teenage baseball
 - Winter programs (indoors).
 - Outdoors in Feb/Mar? Pre-school season to at least get the players out there and ready for high school sports?
 - Get this going to ensure that those that are not part of high school teams have a place to play.
 - Heavy participation before high school season starts. Place to play for those players who don't make high school sports teams. Then move to a travel-ball program later in the season.
 - Work with High School coaches and teams.
- Intermediate:
 - How to reach out to the 13 yr old players who missed Majors to engage with them and get them excited.
 - Lots of interest from the leagues because 12 yr players didn't get to play. They all want to still play.
 - Co-league'ing.
 - Can City of Seattle help with ensuring fields are configurable at 50/70.
- Travel Ball discussion
- Please get HS coach contacts to Scott and Kyle.

Discussion about Travel Ball

- Discussion topics:
 - How to make it work?
 - Northend leagues have travel tournament teams. Do City Leagues?
 - Off season workouts
 - How to keep travel ball separate from regular season.
 - Travel ball vs select leagues.
 - Specific day of game play
 - District involvement, not league driven.
 - How to keep travel ball from looking and acting like a defacto All Star team?
 - Need to determine league interest.
 - Charter through District, not leagues.
 - Committee being formed to discuss all topics and logistics.
 - LL Int'l is supportive and is willing to work with D8 to determine viability for rest of state, region, and national.

Challenger:

- Will discuss at next meeting. Audio issues prevented discussion.

Umpires

- Working to pivot to online training and virtual clinics
- Discussion of umpire recruitment and logistics.
- Visit the LL Int'l Western Region Umpire website

Next Meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 7pm (Virtual)

Meeting Adjourned 9:05pm