

Old Dominion Girls Softball League

Agenda:

February 16, 2006

Topic	Topic Owner	Time
Introductions	Darlene	7:00
Minutes from January Meeting	Jay	7:05
Treasurers Report	Paul	7:06
Action Items from Previous Meeting	Darlene	7:07
By-Laws Committee Report	Charlie	7:10
Opening Day Committee Report	Charlie	7:35
Rules Committee	Rich	7:36
Community Awareness	Mark	7:51
More Rules Discussion	Mark/Rich	8:01
East and West Separation	Dwayne/Mark	8:35
League Commissioner Report	Mark	8:37
ODGSL Hotline	Darlene	8:55

Action Items Determined from Meeting:

- Complete insurance checks and mail to Paul – ALL ASSOCIATIONS
- Complete the new version of By-Laws and distribute at next meeting – Charlie
- Distribute final versions of the rules at next meeting or prior – Rich
- Place paid ads with Richmond Times Dispatch – Mark
- Capture and distribute meeting minutes – Jay

Meeting Minutes:

In Attendance – Darlene Pierce, Charlie Hogue, Mark Vasco, Rich Trala, Kim Barnes, Melissa Stone, Paul Saunders, Bruce Frye, Tommy McMichael, Wendy Witz, Amy Gittman, Toki Mustian, Dwayne Wills, Jay Firebaugh

NOTE: Organizations not represented: None. All organizations were represented.

Location: Hunton Recreation Center

Introductions:

There was a round of introductions. Some new faces were:

- Wendy Witz, new 12U Commissioner.
- Amy Gittman filled in for James Price, Beaverdam. Amy will probably be attending more in future meetings as well.
- Dwayne Wills, New Kent Director of Softball.
- Toki Mustian filled in for Chris Fowler, Ashland.

Minutes from January Meeting:

The January meeting minutes were quickly approved without change. They will be posted on the website before the next ODGSL meeting.

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Treasurers Report:

Paul distributed a handout showing balance (\$7,097.41) and expense for tax preparation (~\$500).

Insurance premiums for 2006 are:

\$70.00/team 12 & under

\$104.00/team 13 to 19

Checks should be made to: ODGSL

Mail checks to:

ODGSL

3422 Pump Rd.

Richmond, VA 23233

Spring invoice will be distributed at the next ODGSL meeting. You can use the Spring invoices Paul handed out previously as an estimate.

Paul also had a special request that all checks to him for insurance purposes should state the team age group.

Special Notice: Teams are not allowed to practice until their insurance has been paid.

Action Items from Previous Meeting:

All Action Items from the January meeting were confirmed as completed as a whole.

By-Laws Committee Report:

Charlie discussed three proposed changes to the By-Laws. Bruce had provided some valuable input in writing beforehand.

1. Board Member Voting

There was lots of discussion on this topic. Several board members expressed that it needs to be fair and balanced across associations. Wording similar to the following was agreed to:

"Maximum of 3 votes for any association in addition to the votes of the officers of the board".

Charlie will draft up the exact wording for the next meeting.

2. "At Large" Board Members

There was lots of discussion on this item as well. The concern is that the current By-Laws don't recognize board members who aren't association reps, or Commissioners, or Officers. The "At Large" status is how they can be recognized. Again, board members discussed how to make this fair. Wording similar to the following was agreed to:

"...can have 3 "At Large" members as voted by the board in addition to the association rep."

3. Meeting Attendance

This issue deals with whether or not punitive measures should be taken against board members who do not attend meetings. Several options were discussed but no final resolution was attained. This issue was tabled for future discussion.

Charlie will update the By-Laws and distribute the final version at the next meeting.

Opening Day Committee Report:

Charlie stated that the agenda for Opening Day will be the same as last year.

Rules Committee Report

Rich handed out hard copies of proposed rules (9 pages). Red hi-lights were on most of the copy to indicate changes. Rich went through all of the changes one at a time to explain them and requested that one vote at the end be made to accept changes as a whole.

See Rules Document. All the rules changes are not listed in this document. Mark also guided discussion on several rules changes. Here are some hi-lights:

- 3C – "midpoint" definition – discussion on whether it should be half of scheduled games vs calendar
- 3E & 12C – courtesy runner vs injured runner – discussion on whether rule should be the same

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- Slow Pitch F – discussion on whether to add another sentence similar to the following: “For Junior/Senior divisions 3rd strike fouls are an out”
- 5A – discussion on whether/how to change defensive time-outs – per pitcher or inning
- 8U Supplement H – somewhat complicated wording
- 5B – lots of discussion on whether face guards should be required for slow pitch. Some were concerned with safety whereas others weren't. The cost, hassle, and effectiveness were also discussed. Darlene directed the board to take separate vote on this one rule change since the board seemed somewhat 50/50. The vote carried to require face guards for slow pitch.

All the other rules changes were voted on and accepted in whole. Rich will distribute the rules at a later time.

Community Awareness

Mark handed out a couple hard copies of proposed newspaper ads for the Richmond Times Dispatch. Mark briefly summarized previous discussions on this topic and explained that he had worked with RTD staff to come up with an attractive ad at a reasonable price. There was some discussion to the point that most associations were late in their registration. In the end the board voted approval for the ads. Mark will place one ad for Wednesday, 2/22, Metro section, and one for Friday, 2/24, Sports section. There was also discussion that this should probably be done this Fall.

League Commissioner Report

Mark began his report with some good questions from Dwayne Wills, New Kent. Will there be an East and West divisions this year like last? It was announced that Varina has backed out of ODGSL and Mark stated that as of right now he's not sure. The scheduling committee will meet and Mark will make a decision about this. Mark also stated that West Point has contacted us inquiring about becoming an ODGSL member. Dwayne noted that West Point is only about 15 miles from New Kent.

Dwayne also asked about 10U pitching and whether it would be “coach-pitch”? The answer right now is that there will be no coach-pitch for 10U.

Mark stated that umpire agreements have been finalized. Slow Pitch will be USSSA. Fast Pitch will be Babe Ruth.

Skills competition is March 26. Rich and Mark will get together on this.

Team info is due Tuesday, February 28.

Mark suggested a new award, one for each age group, for Managers. Officers of ODGSL would be disqualified. The award would be for sportsmanship as well as just being a good manager. A plaque and possibly a gift card would be involved. The general consensus was that this was a good idea.

Rich mentioned that 12U Slow Pitch might be moved to Summer. If there are enough girls to do it for the Spring then we'll definitely do it in the Spring however.

ODGSL Hotline

Darlene mentioned that the hotline should be fine to use this year, same as last. She indicated Mark will be in charge of it.

Adjournment: 8:57pm