

MINUTES
BASEBALL COMMITTEE
MEETING OF
October 23, 2022
10:00 A.M. Department Library

1. Call to Order 10:00 A.M.

Department Chairman Shamhart opened the meeting of the Department Baseball Committee at 10:00 A.M.

2. Salute to the Colors

The Colors were saluted.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Agner led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Baseball Code of Conduct

Commissioner Sturzinger led those present in reciting the Baseball Code of Conduct. A moment of silence was given to our fallen comrades.

5. Roll Call: Christie White, Department Americanism and Children & Youth Coordinator

Members present:

Marv Shamhart, Department Baseball Chairman- PRESENT
Bryce Agner, Region 1 Commissioner- PRESENT
Chris Emmons, Region 2 Commissioner- PRESENT
Ted Sturzinger, Region 3 Commissioner- PRESENT
Region 4 Commissioner- VACANT
Bret Mavis, Region 5 Commissioner- PRESENT
Phil Lightfoot, Region 6 Commissioner- PRESENT
BJ Long, Region 7 Commissioner- PRESENT
Jack Hill, Region 8 Commissioner- EXCUSED
Bryce Agner, District 1 Chairman- PRESENT
Bill Lonsbury, District 2 Chairman- PRESENT
District 3 Chairman- VACANT
Jerry Wilson, District 4 Chairman- NOT PRESENT
Mike Nye, District 5 Chairman- NOT PRESENT
Mel Cantrell, District 6 Chairman- PRESENT
District 10 Chairman- VACANT
Regis Kern, District 11 Chairman- PRESENT
Michael Higgins, District 12 Chairman- PRESENT

Guests Present:

Christie White, Americanism and Children & Youth Coordinator
Jeff Vrabel Sr- Past SAL National Vice Commander

6. Reading of Previous Minutes

Michael Higgins, District 12 Chairman moved, seconded by Chris Emmons, Region 2 Commissioner to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

MOTION PASSED

7. Approval of Committee Rules

Phil Lightfoot, Region 6 Commissioner, moved, seconded by Bret Mavis, Region 5 Commissioner to approve the Baseball Committee Rules.

MOTION PASSED

8. Ohio Baseball 2023 Rulebook- Christie White, Department Americanism and Children & Youth Coordinator mentioned that the 2023 Ohio Rulebook and dates and prices highlighted in it. Those are the 2022 dates, but all other information is updated. Christie also asked for changes if anyone sees any mistakes.

9. Junior and Senior Tournament Dates

a. Junior- July 13th- July 16th, 2023. Junior Region tournament winners will need to be sent to Phil before July 10th, 2023

b. Senior- July 24th- July 28th, 2023. Banquet July 23rd. All Region tournament winners will need to be turned in to Department by July 20th

Phil Lightfoot, Region 6 Commissioner moved, seconded by Mike Higgins, 12th District Chairman to approve the Junior and Senior Tournament dates.

MOTION PASSED

10. Team Fees

- a. Junior- \$500.00
- b. Senior- \$600.00

Chris Emmons, Region 2 Commissioner moved, seconded by Bryce Agner, Region 1 Commissioner to keep the team fees the same as last year.

MOTION PASSED

The Commission discussed saving money with hotels and teams staying or leaving after their second loss.

If a teams sponsoring Post is within a 60-mile radius of the Tournament site, accommodations will not be provided by Department. All teams who's sponsoring Post is outside of the 60 miles radius will have accommodations until they are eliminated. After each team is eliminated, they will not be provided accommodations, unless it is the 7:00PM game and the sponsoring Post is outside the 60-mile radius. If the sponsoring Post is outside of the 60-mile radius, the coaches will be given the option prior to the 7:00PM game to be given accommodations. The coach needs to check in with the Department Coordinator and Baseball Chairman and notify them if they will need accommodations.

If the team chooses to stay, the entire team will stay.

Chris Emmons, Region 2 Commissioner moved, seconded by Phil Lightfoot, Region 6 Commissioner to approve the above statement and add it to the Ohio Rulebook.

MOTION PASSED

11. Regional Tournament Dates- Region Tournaments need to be completed by July 20th, 2023.
12. Background Checks & Abuse Awareness Training- Chairman Shamhart stated that coaches are still having issues completing their background checks and abuse awareness training. We will make sure everyone knows the email address they are sent for the training and the verbiage of the email so they know its not junk mail.
13. Uniforms
 - a. Legion Baseball Patch- No Patch, No Play!!!!- Chairman Shamhart notified the committee that National has new marketing logos for Baseball. National is transitioning to the new logo. They will still allow the old logos but are transitioning to the newer logos.
 - b. Commissioner Shirts- Chairman Shamhart mentions that teams who play each other and have the same color shirt, it is hard to tell them apart. The committee discussed it is hard to tell each team to buy extra jerseys, so they don't have the same color as the opposing team.

Chris Emmons, Region 2 Commissioner moved, seconded by Bryce Agner, Region 1 Commissioner, for the Commissioners to get gray polos as well as warmups, and District Chairmen will get red polos.

MOTION PASSED

14. 2022 State Tournament Review- Chris Emmons mentioned that Tiffin was an issue. The rules state that you must have 12 players dressed and available in order to play, and they only had 8 players. We need to stick to our guns and follow the rules. The message should be the same at each team meeting before the tournament starts.

The Commissioners requested the Vrabel kids as their ball boys again.

15. New Business
 - a. Resignation of District Baseball Chairmen
 - i. Steve Thorp

Chris Emmons, Region 2 Commissioner moved, seconded by Bill Lonsberry, District 2 Chairman to accept the resignation of District 6 Baseball Chairman Steve Thorp.

MOTION PASSED

Mel Cantrell has expressed interest in being the district 6 Baseball Chairman

Chris Emmons, Region 2 Commissioner moved, seconded by Bill Lonsberry, District 2 Chairman to

accept Mel Cantell as District 6 Baseball Chairman pending approval from the 6th District Commander.

MOTION PASSED

- b. Appointment as District Baseball Chairmen
 - i. Jeff Vrabel Sr- District 12. Region 4 needs a Commissioner. Michael Higgins, 12th District Chairman does not have the time to move up to the Region Commissioner.

Michael Higgins, 12th District Chairman moved, seconded by Chris Emmons, Region 2 Commissioner to accept Jeff Vrabel Sr as the Region 4 Commissioner.

MOTION PASSED

Michael Higgins, 12th District Chairman, Mel Cantrell, 6th District Chairwoman and Jeff Vrabel Sr, Region 4 Commissioner will assist Phil Lightfoot, Region 6 Commissioner with the Junior State Tournament.

- c. Commissioner Training- Chris Emmons, Region 2 Commissioner is interested in becoming the future Department Baseball Chairman. He will shadow Department Chairman Shamhart the next few seasons to learn the job.

Bret Mavis, Region 5 Commissioner moved, seconded by Bryce Agner, Region 1 Commissioner to appoint Chris Emmons, Region 2 Commissioner as the Department Assist Baseball Chairman in Training.

MOTION PASSED

Chris Emmons mentions that he has a gentleman that is interested in becoming the District 3 Chairman. Sam Miller, Post 707. The 3rd District Commander will send a letter appointing him as the District 3 Chairman and Chris will bring him to the next meeting.

16. Old Business- Michael Higgins mentioned that travel teams charge a lot more than Legion ball does. Chris Emmons mentioned that increasing our cost might discourage Legion Posts from having a team if they can't afford it. Jeff Vrabel mentioned that proceeds generated from the American Legion license plate will go towards Legion Baseball. Regis Kern stated that he is not resigning from the Baseball Committee. Christie will talk to the District Commander about keeping his appointment as District Chairman. Chairman Shamhart wanted to committee to be aware of the National Important Dates. National would like more baseball scholarship applications. Department Baseball Senior State Winner needs to be to National by July 29th. National Regional Tournaments are August 2nd-6th, 2023. The World Series is August 10th-15th, 2023. Chris Emmons mentioned someone contacted him about creating a National Junior Regional Tournament with Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Illinois. He should contact National and see if they will approve it, even if we do it as a pilot program next year.

17. Salute the Colors

18. Adjourned- The Baseball Committee adjourned at 12:24PM