

DRAFT

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CAPITOL HILL LITTLE LEAGUE (CHLL)

A meeting of the CHLL Board was held on May 11 at 7:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time by video conference. CHLL President David Fox presided over the opening of the meeting. Becky Skinner served as Secretary. In attendance were:

Charles Barnett
Frank Craddock
Jake Cumsky-Whitlock
Steven Fall
Tim Fouts
David Fox
Jason Goldsmith
Lisa Miller
Becky Skinner
Justin Sprinzen
Kevin Starace
Ramin Taheri
David Toney
Lona Valmoro

Agenda

David Fox began the meeting by noting that the main purpose of the meeting was to discuss whether to cancel the spring season officially and how to handle spring registration fees.

Spring Season

Since the board last met in April, Little League International (LLI) cancelled all tournaments at the regional level and higher. LLI is leaving it to individual leagues to determine whether they will have any type of season and for districts and states to determine whether to hold tournaments. Based on an initial conversation with our District Administrator, summer tournaments in DC seem highly unlikely.

DC is currently under a stay-at-home order that expires on Friday. However, given the coronavirus data for the city, it is expected that the order will be extended. Even if fields were available by early June, it would probably be too late to have a regular season. The best we might be able to do is to offer drills and possibly scrimmages. Other DC Little Leagues have already cancelled their spring seasons. A motion was made to officially cancel our spring season. The motion was agreed to by voice vote.

Spring Registration Fees

The board discussed how to handle spring registration fees. There were three options discussed: (1) refunds (less service and late fees), (2) deferral to a subsequent season, or (3) donation to the league. It was decided that deferrals should only be offered for the fall

season and not the spring season as making both options available may create complications from an accounting perspective. Families can just ask for a refund if their player will not be participating in the fall. An email will be sent to families later this week, asking them to select an option by June 1. The board discussed what the default option would be if a family did not respond. A motion was made that the default option should be a donation. The motion passed by voice vote. David Fox is going to check with Jennifer Pharaoh, Board Counsel, about whether any donations would be tax deductible.

Jason Goldsmith is working with Sports Connect to see if there is a way for them to automate refunds. If Sports Connect does not develop a solution, the league will offer refunds by check, PayPal, Venmo, and so forth.

Nationals

The Nationals reached out to Lisa Miller to see how CHLL was doing under the current circumstances. During the conversation, the Nationals mentioned that they would not be able to support teams as generously in 2021 as they have in recent years due to the effects of the coronavirus on Major League Baseball. They suggested that we use our jerseys from this spring, which were not handed out, for the spring 2021 season. As most of our fall players also play in the spring, many of them should be able to wear their spring jerseys for the fall season. We would need to decide how to handle sponsor-related issues if we use the spring 2020 jerseys for the spring 2021 season. We told the Nationals that we were willing to help other leagues in the city if there was something we could do for them.

Treasurer's Report

Chuck Barnett noted that our \$50,000 CD is due on May 20, 2020. The board discussed whether to renew it for 6 or 12 months. The board agreed to renew the CD for another six months and then to assess the league's financial situation at that point.

Fall Season

Fall registration has historically opened in July. The current plan is to continue this practice. There was some discussion about whether we could offer pre-fall season workouts if fields were available. There also was some discussion about whether we might need to order special supplies (e.g., hand sanitizer) for the fall season. Lisa Miller will share information with the board about safety guidance for large group events.

Website

The board agreed to revert to our original website, so that families will be able to find information about refunds, deferrals, and donations of spring registration fees. The league will continue to highlight our sponsors through emails.

Next Meeting

The next CHLL Board meeting will be held on Monday, June 1 by video unless the board needs to convene earlier.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. EDT.

Approved:

Respectfully submitted,

David Fox, President

Rebecca Skinner, Secretary