

DRAFT

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

A meeting of the CHLL Board was held on June 1, 2020 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
Jake Cumsy-Whitlock
Steven Fall
Tim Fouts
David Fox
Jason Goldsmith
Lisa Miller
Becky Skinner
Justin Sprinzen
Kevin Starace
Ramin Taheri
David Toney
Lona Valmoro

Deferrals, Refunds, and Donations

David Fox provided an update on whether families were deciding to have their spring registration fees deferred to the fall, refunded, or donated to the league. To date, we have an 85% response rate. Of the spring registrations for which we have received a response, 31% are being deferred to the fall, 24% are being refunded, and 24% are being donated to the league. Refunds will be handled through Sports Connect based on each family's form of original payment. Jason Goldsmith will provide Sports Connect with the information they need to process the refunds. For families opting for a deferral, they will have a credit on their account in Sports Connect. The board also discussed carrying over spring sponsorship fees to the fall.

Fall Registration

The board discussed when to open fall registration. The board agreed to open registration in mid-July, but this decision may be revisited as there is substantial uncertainty over what the fall season will look like.

Fall Fees

The board discussed whether to retain the spring rates for the fall season. While fall fees have historically been lower than spring fees, the board anticipates incurring additional costs related to coronavirus safety measures (e.g., hand sanitizer, disposable gloves, disposable masks). The board tentatively agreed to retain the spring fees for the fall season and will make a final decision at the next meeting.

Getting Back on the Field Committee

Jason Goldsmith discussed the formation of a committee to examine Little League's suggestions for returning to play to develop a set of best practices for CHLL. The committee will develop documentation for families about what measures will be in place to protect players, so they can decide whether to have their child play in the fall. The committee will also develop documentation for coaches, so they have a clear understanding of their responsibilities. The committee also will consider how these new practices should be enforced. The committee will include five board members (Jason, Becky Skinner, Steve Fall, Jake Cumsy-Whitlock, and Kevin Starace), division commissioners, and possibly parents. After further discussion, it was decided that the committee should focus on safety issues and that Justin Sprinzen and Becky would work on issues related to game structure. Jason will lead the Getting Back on the Field Committee from a safety perspective. Justin will lead the effort from a game structure perspective.

District Meeting

David Fox mentioned that Little League will be voting on a new rule for spring 2021 that would allow local leagues to set time limits for their own games. If that time limit is reached, the game would be considered a full game, regardless of the number of innings played. David said that since the fall season is considered a developmental season, we could use this proposed rule in the fall.

Annual Meeting and Board Elections

David Fox and Jason Goldsmith reached out to Jennifer Pharaoh, board counsel, about whether we can hold the annual election and meeting online. She said that both are permitted by DC law but recommended that the board update the bylaws to specifically state that these are both permitted. She also noted that an online annual meeting has to be interactive (e.g., participants have the ability to ask questions). A motion was made to hold the 2020 annual meeting and election online. The motion passed by voice vote. David will ask Jennifer to recommend language for the bylaws.

Becky Skinner, as Board Secretary, will put together an election committee and develop a plan for the election process. David received a recommendation for an online voting system that is used by a local school. Becky will take a closer look at it and conduct a test vote with the board.

Next Meeting

The next CHLL Board meeting will be held on Monday, July 6 by video unless the board needs to convene earlier.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. EDT.

Approved:

Respectfully submitted,

David Fox, President

Rebecca Skinner, Secretary