

## **DRAFT**

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

A meeting of the CHLL Board was held on July 20, 2020 at 7:05 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  
Melissa Beard  
Frank Craddock  
Jake Cumsky-Whitlock  
Steven Fall  
Tim Fouts  
David Fox  
Jason Goldsmith  
Lisa Miller  
Becky Skinner  
Justin Sprinzen  
Ramin Taheri  
David Toney  
Lona Valmoro  
Jennifer Pharaoh—Board Counsel

#### **Board Member Resignation**

Tim Fouts submitted his letter of resignation, effective immediately following the meeting, as his family is moving out of DC. The board will fill the vacancy as soon as possible. Board members were asked to submit recommendations for possible board members with a short bio to David Fox and Jason Goldsmith by Wednesday. Tim's replacement will finish Tim's term, which ends in 2021. The board will meet on July 27 at 7:00 pm to consider a possible new board member.

#### **Return to Play Document**

Jason discussed the creation of a return to play document. The document is intended to be a "living" document that can be amended based on changes in the situation. Jason will add language to the document to note that the requirements can change. Clarifying the document to require adult volunteers to wear masks at all times also was discussed. The board discussed adding the document to the registration process, so that families can acknowledge that they have read it. The document was approved by voice vote with the aforementioned changes. Jason will provide the document to CHLL families prior to opening registration.

#### **Discussion of Assumption of Risk**

A litigator at Nelson Mullins prepared a new assumption of risk document for CHLL. It is more robust than prior waivers with respect to protecting the league from liability. A

discussion ensued about individual board member liability and board insurance. The board also discussed how to deal with a non-compliant coach. The league would need to take swift action to resolve the situation to avoid liability issues and to minimize any chance of exposing players, families, and other volunteers to the coronavirus. The board also discussed creating an anonymous feedback form where individuals can provide information about compliance issues. Board members will need to be visible at practices and games to help ensure compliance. The commissioners could help with this effort. Jennifer will check to see if failing to end games if there is a case of COVID-19 would constitute gross negligence.

The liability waiver is part of the registration process. Jennifer suggested that the waiver be flagged as being revised. She also noted that a copy of the waiver also should be emailed to the families of all registered players. Jennifer will check to see if the overall liability form requires a live signature because a minor is involved or whether an electronic signature is sufficient.

A motion was made to approve the revised assumption of risk waiver and release of liability/indemnification agreement. The document was approved by voice vote.

### **Fall Season**

DPR is not issuing permits for the fall season yet. It is unclear if and when the city will move to Phase 3 or what the Mayor will say about youth league sports. RFK field permits are on hold. If we do receive RFK field permits, only clinics and practices will be permitted. The RFK fields will require mandatory temperature checks for players that are logged for each clinic/practice. Across the city, NWLL probably will offer baseball to players ages 9 and older. CCLL is not going to offer anything for players 8 and under. The five other leagues in the city will not have programming until there is a COVID-19 vaccine. The District Administrator has advised leagues to not play. Leagues in Maryland and Virginia are trying to have some type of season.

The Board discussed the results of a parent survey conducted during the previous two weeks to ascertain parents' comfort level with having their player(s) participate in a fall season. Overall, about 16% of respondents were ready to register for the fall season and had no concerns. About 55% of respondents were ready to register for the fall season but had some concerns. About 27% of respondents were not ready to register for the fall season yet but were still considering it. About 3% of respondents indicated they would not be registering for the fall season. There was interest among the parents of Single A and AA players who responded to the survey in having clinics if a regular season could not be held. There was little interest among these parents in having any type of sessions offered online.

The Board considered various options for the fall season ranging from a normal season to only games for Majors and AAA and nothing else. The board discussed needing parent buy-in, the importance of coaches, coach compliance, safety concerns, whether to offer any type of programming for Single A or AA players, and whether to start with practices/clinics for the older players and move to games should they be permitted later in the fall.

A motion was made to have a fall season in some capacity based on further discussion. The motion passed by a vote of 12-1. A motion was made to only have clinics and no formal teams or games for Single A. The motion passed by a vote of 12-0. A motion was made to only have clinics and no formal teams or games for AA. The motion passed by a vote of 12-0. A motion was made to have teams for AAA even if they did not end up playing games. The motion passed by a vote of 12-0. A motion was made to have teams for Majors even if they did not end up playing games. The motion passed by a vote of 12-0. A motion was made to treat the softball age groups the same way as the baseball age groups. The motion passed by a vote of 12-0. The board agreed to table discussion about Juniors and Seniors.

As more information becomes available, David Fox or Jason Goldsmith may convene a committee to put together a framework for the fall season. Members of the committee would include Lona Valmoro, Becky Skinner, and Justin Sprinzen.

### **Next Meeting**

The next CHLL Board meeting will be held on Monday, July 27 by video unless the board needs to convene earlier.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m. EDT.

Approved:

Respectfully submitted,

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David Fox, President

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Rebecca Skinner, Secretary