

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

Baseball Spring Pre-season Zoom Meeting
Sunday, April 24, 2022
6:00 PM

MINUTES

Commissioner Roger Mathison called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with a salute to the Colors, Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call was taken with the following in attendance:

Roger Mathison, Commissioner
Mark Faanes, Region 1 Director
Wayne Sankey, Region 2 Director
Craig Sankey, Region 2 Assistant
Dan Lukes, Region 3 Assistant
Tom Carney, Region 4 Director
Rick Pankow, Region 4 Assistant
Eric Bloohm, Region 5 Director
Derrick Standke, Region 5 Assistant
Scott Huffman, Region 6 Assistant
Sean Gavaghan, Region 7 Director
Phil DeRosa, Region 7 Assistant
Peder Swanson, Region 8 Director
Gary Gilbertson, Public Relations Director

Excused:

Greg Eirich, Department Commander
Kevin Stangel, President Region 3 Director
David Wischer, Past Department Commander
Nathan Gear, Adjutant/Secretary
Jeff Puddy, Americanism Chair
Michael Arendt, Region 6 Director

Absent:

Dennis Semph, Umpire Coordinator
Adam Stenner, Region 8 Assistant

Registration Update

A total of 141 teams have begun the registration process, 13 teams are ready for approval, 80 teams have paid insurance. We will reach out to Rosendale, Mequon and East Troy to be sure there are no registration issues.

Jen will send team email this week highlighting the registration process, including an explanation of draft, submitted, approved status, and reinforcing upcoming deadline and late fee as well as All Star information.

Regional Tournament Hosts

Class AAA (State at Sheboygan)

- 1 - Chippewa Falls
- 2 - Wausau
- 3 - Marinette
- 4 - Manitowoc (if field available)
- 5 - Oshkosh
- 6 - Watertown

Class AA (State at Fort Atkinson)

- 4 - Ashwaubenon
- 5 - New London
- 7 - Onalaska

Class A (State at Viroqua)

- 1 - Baldwin
- 3 - Freedom
- 6 - G-E-T
- 7 - Westby

17-Under (State at Plover)

- 3 - Marinette
- 4 - Ashwaubenon
- 6 - Fond du Lac

16-Under (State at Brownsville/Lomira-Theresa)

- 2 - Wisconsin Rapids
- 4 - Seymour

All-Star Weekend

- A. Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield
- B. No ump updates
- C. Jen will send a formal letter to Terry Ryan for guest speaker possibility, Damien Miller looks unlikely for this year due to scheduling. Matt Thums is a possibility if Terry Ryan opts out. Guest speakers receive tickets and hotel and \$300.

D. Online nomination process this year. Due Date is June 25.

Motion by Sean Gavaghan to purchase 700 brewers tickets instead of 649, second by Tom Carney. Motion Carried.

Tournament host updates

All host areas look to have preparations are coming along as planned, has been communication with Sheboygan to be sure they're ready as well.

Hall of Fame

Jeff Chew and Dan Barry. Letters have been sent, but contact info for John Barry and Jeff Chew will be sent to Jen for planning and confirmation. Scott Huffman will reach out to John.

Softball Discussion

Softball promotion has been going strong through the WI spring district meetings. The program has been well received and it's been great to get correct information out and some face time. Roger feels there is potential that we could eventually see more Legion Softball teams than baseball teams. Regarding gender and inclusivity it was decided there should be a vague statement clarifying that it is for highschool softball players and that the ultimate decision falls on the local level.

Should include fastpitch in the softball literature

Regarding the formation of the softball subcommittee-

- A. Term will be through the end of 2023.
- B. Adding three committee members. Roger's nominations are
 - Melissa Hildebrandt- River Falls Commander
 - Jim Wickert- Sun Prairie MacFarland Legionnaire member
 - Josh Navis- Waupun, Softball coach

Motion by Tom Carney, Second by Dan Lukes to add Melissa Hildebrandt, Jim Wickert, Josh Navis to the Softball Sub-Committee. Motion Carried.

Motion by Dan Lukes, Second by Tom Carney to make Wisconsin Legion Softball Scholarship even with Baseball and adjust to \$1000. Motion Carried.

Trophies

- Would like to remove Varsity and Junior Varsity from trophies and use class instead the outdated wording.
- Regional plaque should have regional on it to differentiate from state

- Have proof sent to Roger, Kevin and Dan before trophies go to production

Discussed numbers for possible split of JR teams into 2 divisions. 56-60 is the general consensus

Motion to adjourn by Dan Lukes, second by Tom Carney at 7:18pm. Motion Carried.

Adjourned per ritual.

Respectfully submitted;

Roger Mathison, Commissioner