

MIDLAND SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

February 8, 2016

Present: BIRCH, ROWE, MOE, CHICHESTER, LANGLOIS, SCHUNK, WALLACE, HANSON, RAPP, STEWART, POST, ENSZER, CURRIE, and DUNLOP

Call to order: Secretary Jody Chichester deferred the preceding over the meeting to Historian Jerry Hanson. Hanson called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes of January 11, 2016 were distributed and read. Currie made a motion to approve the minutes. Dunlop seconded. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: A report was distributed. Schunk announced some revenue came in increasing the end of the year amount for 2015. The December 31, 2015 balance was \$24,464.29. Currie moved to accept the report. Rowe seconded. Report accepted.

Umpire-in-chief report: Birch announced:

1. The first meeting for umpires was held February 3, 2016. Nineteen people attended. Covered case book plays making umpires think about a situation and how to call it. Requests have been made to keep up the scenarios.
2. MASA national school is April 2-3, 2016 in Oxford, Michigan. The Umpires' Association will pay for partial fees for the first ten individuals who sign up.

New Business:

1. ASA has a new rule—Courtesy Runner-- which will be used in all adult softball except Seniors. Any player on roster can be used as a courtesy runner. A courtesy runner can be used once per inning. A bylaw change will be required to eliminate designated runner rule or possibility of using both designated runner and courtesy runner. Birch recommended going with the ASA rule to alleviate confusion having both.
2. The compression of the 11-inch ball will be the same as the bigger ball for 2017.
3. Chin straps will no longer be required in J O ball.
4. Men's Fast pitch, modified and J O players can use either on-deck circles.

5. Survey responses went out Thursday, February 5, 2016. Presently over 200 responses have been received. All survey responses must be turned in by February 12, 2016. A reminder will go out February 10, 2016.
6. A discussion was held on Stewart's question whether to continue offering 9-man and traveling 9-man modified. Should 10-man be moved from Tuesday to open up modified and fast pitch? Dunlop made a motion to move men's 9-man modified to Monday and 10-man modified to Thursday and leave fast pitch on Tuesday. Rowe seconded. Dunlop withdrew his motion as Parks and Recreation office makes the decision. Wallace will call all teams involved to inquire interest for movement of leagues.

Old Business:

1. Since the city is increasing the per player fee \$1 and MSA is increasing team fees \$4, Schunk made a motion to raise the player fees by \$2 across the board for all summer and fall participants. Wallace seconded. Motion approved.
2. The Annual/Managers meeting will be at the library on Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 7 p.m. Post will send out e-mail regarding bylaw changes. The April MSA meeting will be changed from Monday, April 11, 2016 to Monday, April 25, 2016 for the purpose of reviewing the submitted bylaws.
3. Post gave the concession agreement to Rowe as some individuals are interested in providing concessions.
4. Concerns about conditions of warning track on Redcoats 13 were discussed. Improvements have been made to many of the warning tracks.
5. Hanson will submit a bylaw change for 2017 regarding time frame for reviewing bylaws. Hanson voiced seven days is not long enough for everyone to have a chance to read any submitted bylaws.
6. Schunk and Hanson met with Bailey Insurance to discuss coverage. Bailey stated MSA offered better insurance plans than what Bailey could offer. MSA does have director and officers' protection for board members for off field play. Presently MSA paying Bailey \$1100 a year without player signature on roster being required. In the past MSA could write the check but now the check has to come from and be signed by the City of Midland and roster signatures must be kept on file. Post, Hanson and Stewart will meet with Dave Keenan, city

financial director for the City of Midland, to discuss the insurance coverage issue. Post will set up the meeting.

7. Enszer reported that the Holiday Inn manager is extremely interested in being the host hotel for tournaments held in 2016. Coupons for eating at the Big Es will be included in the team packets.

Adjournment: Currie made the motion to adjourn. Rowe seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m. The next meeting of the MSA will be Monday, March 14, 2016.

Jody L. Chichester, Secretary 