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## Minutes of CGSL Executive Meeting – Jan. 21, 2018 – 11:00 a.m. – 519 Church

*(action items in italics)*

Present: Mark Hamilton, Secretary  
Kevin Sun, Commissioner  
Ken Tedford, Asst. Commissioner  
Ryan Webb, Field Operations  
Chad Simon, Membership

Regrets: Robert Tanguay, Treasurer  
Kate Fudge, League Rep/Events

### 1. Secretary – Mark

#### 1.1 Minutes of November 15, 2017 CGSL Executive Meeting

Motion: To approve minutes of November 15/17 Executive Meeting. Moved by Ken/seconded by Chad. Motion approved.

Kevin said he's been approached by 2 additional teams but they want to play Thurs nights. Ryan said he requires access to CGSL website.

*Kevin to email Jim Rebstock asking him to reset passwords for Chad/Mark/Ryan.*

#### 1.2 Minutes of December 16, 2017 CGSL Managers' Summit Meeting

Motion: To approve minutes of December 16/17 Managers' Summit Meeting. Moved by Kevin/seconded by Mark. Motion approved.

*Kevin to send these minutes to managers.*

Mark: It was suggested at Summit that teams be given option of having their team funds managed by the Executive. Exec members disagreed with this proposal. Mark said teams should be encouraged to appoint a team treasurer. Ken also recommended dual signage. Another issue discussed at Summit was commitment line / scoring line. Kevin said this comes up annually. Ryan said there is a safety issue; one problem is that teams tend to use weaker players as catchers. Kevin/Chad suggested instituting different rules for C + D divisions to address this issue. It may be brought up again at the Feb 2018 MCM.

#### 1.3 "Play Safe" Messaging"

"Play safe on and off the field." Due to work reasons, Kevin isn't comfortable with this tag line. Other Exec members agreed to add this tag line to messages to league members.

### 2. Commissioner – Kevin Sun

2.1 LEAGUE SURVEY: A survey of league members was completed on line in Dec 2017 using the Survey Monkey platform. Approx. 130 replies were rec'd. Ryan did a summary of the data + sent it to Executive members. This was followed today by a discussion of the survey results, question by question. Ryan said there was a good cross section of responses from players of different divisions (Q #1)

2.2 Renaming of Divisions (Q #2): Ryan said the survey results weren't clear. Chad said many favoured the status quo. The current system of C/D divisions causes confusion for CGSL teams in tournaments. Chad suggested having a disclaimer on the Website.

2.3 One idea was to use nostalgic names for divisions.

2.4 Recommendation: Leave division names as they are + add a disclaimer on the Website.

2.5 Rating of Team Managers (Q #3): In reply to this survey question, most managers were rated highly. There was a low rate of dissatisfaction with the job that managers are doing.

2.6 Play Dates (Q #4): 53 respondents liked Sat/Sun play while 76 preferred Fri/Sat games. Kevin said Sunday games may conflict with other sports. Ken suggested staying with Fri/Sat games. Mark suggested extending game times on Sat if necessary.

2.7 Ryan said the use of a 2<sup>nd</sup> field location would create complications for umpires + field setup/takedown. Chad suggested extending play into Sept + agreed with extending Sat hours for games.

2.8 One idea suggested in the survey was playing on long weekends. Ryan said this wouldn't be a popular idea.

2.9 The playing schedule should be vetted before it is finalized. Ken said David G and Jonathan Y could be approached for the Scheduling Committee. Kevin said there may be between 23 + 26 teams. We should develop different schedule scenarios. Ryan said we could limit the # of teams.

2.10 Chad said we could start earlier than 830 am on Saturdays.

2.11 Clinics (Q #8): 95 supported clinics + 34 were opposed. Chad suggested clinics twice per

- month. Kevin/Mark said we should look at the cost of fields for Sundays (e.g. clinics). Ken said the total costs for fields in 2017 was \$18k. Chad suggested a trial period for Sunday clinics. Ken said interest will wane over the summer. According to Q #9, 75 liked the idea of open scrimmages + 51 didn't like the idea.
- 2.12 Playoffs: Mark asked if they will be held in Aug or Sept. Chad suggested a June 1 start for season due to cool May weather. Ken/Mark disagreed. Chad suggested Sept 15 playoffs. Mark disagreed with that idea.
- 2.13 Sundays: It was suggested that every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday be booked for clinics, practice games, rainouts, etc. RE: Start of season: Ken said we try to play 2 weekends before Victoria Day.
- 2.14 Ryan said he'll prepare various schedule scenarios for the MCM. Chad to work on clinics.
- 2.15 Concessions (Q #10 – COMMENTS SECTION): Concessions (e.g. food/drinks) were favoured as indicated by the # of comments. League Communications was cited by some members as a problem re: lack of timely updates (e.g. rainouts). It would be hard to do anything further as rainout alerts are posted on Website + email is sent to members.
- 2.16 Field Maintenance: Ken/Chad to do a schedule for this so work can be distributed. Ryan suggested a committee for this work. *Ryan to draft a message asking for volunteers + Kevin will send it to members.*
- 2.17 2018 Awards Banquet Date should be set soon (Mark). Why wait?
- 2.18 TOURNAMENTS: Kevin said 2 teams may attend 2018 Gay World Series (i.e. Swallows, Bolts). Ryan suggested sign up be made available to players for GSWS who don't have a team.
- 2.19 MIST Tournament: Kevin said Toronto may host MIST in 2020. A decision will be made Feb 2018. This would not be a problem in terms of non NAGAAA rules, etc.
- 2.20 Northern Classic to be held long weekend in August 2018. According to survey (Q #6), 46 wanted their team to play + 45 said they wouldn't participate. However, some members said they wanted to volunteer.
- 3. Treasurer – Robert Tanguay (Regrets)**
- 3.1 Rob asked (via email) for Executive members to think about their 2018 budgets.
- 4. Assistant Commissioner – Ken Tedford**
- 4.1 Arbitration Committee Matter: Ken reported on the status of an arbitration case. Mark suggested that the Executive be asked to ratify the Arbitration Committee's recommendation.
- 4.2 MOTION: That the CGSL Executive accept the Arbitration Committee's recommendation. Motion moved by Mark, seconded by Kevin. Motion approved.
- 4.3 Rule changes for 2018: Ken said the rule requiring wearing of cleats was rescinded. The new rule is that players must wear closed toed shoes on the playing field.
- 4.4 For pick up players, there is no required position that they must play, although they must bat at the bottom of the batting order.
- 4.5 Masks: Chad asked about masks + protective equipment (e.g. batting helmets). Ryan said masks are recommended for catchers but are not required.
- 5. Field Operations – Ryan Webb**
- 5.1 2018 Field Bookings: Ryan said we should receive update on field costs by March 2018. Then we can nail down the fields based on our needs.
- 5.2 Playoff Fields: Ryan said an additional application was made for East Point for playoffs. *Ryan to check with Tim Connolly on this application.*
- 5.3 In terms of the members' survey (Q #5), there was a 50/50 split on question of having playoffs at 1 location vs 2 fields. Ryan said he'd like to have 1 playoff weekend + concessions at the fields. Ken suggested a food truck. Ryan asked Ken it might be possible for TTC to donate a shuttle bus for proposed East Point playoffs due to location.
- 5.4 Chad asked about East Point field conditions. Ken said the gravel is no longer an issue. There are fences around the outfield.
- 5.5 2018 Umpires: Ryan asked for a list of umpires + this was provided. Chad said he is willing to umpire. Ken provided info to Chad on clinic (\$130) + SPO card (\$85-\$95). *Ken will email Chad with further details.*

- 5.6 Supplies/Equipment: *Ryan to speak with Ken about this.* Eagle Beaver is the source.
- 6. Membership – Chad Simon**
- 6.1 *Chad to contact Dave P. via Facebook messaging.* Kevin suggested that Chad contact LGBTQ groups at GTA campuses for potential recruitment.
- 6.2 Mark said that on line registration needs to be up and running ASAP. Jim Rebstock is the main contact for this function. Kevin said we need to decide the 2018 membership fees. Mark said we need to set the date for the in person registration event.
- 6.3 Chad asked about early bird discount.
- 6.4 Ken said the Opening Pitch event will be at Woody's. Likely date is Sat May 5, 2018.
- 6.5 Kevin said registration event could be at O'Grady's or an associated bar (e.g. The Drink) as they are also a major team sponsor.
- 6.6 Ratings clinic may be held April 22. Player draft may be held immediately afterwards as in 2017.
- 6.7 Ken said revised draft procedures are being developed.
- 6.8 Registration event to be held April 7. This will be cutoff for "early bird registration".
- 6.9 *Kevin to contact The Drink (459 Church) as possible venue for registration event.*
- 7. Events – Kate Fudge (regrets)**
- 7.1 Holiday Party/Toy Drive: This was held at Woody's Dec 9 at 3 pm. Kate said by email that it was a success and 51 Division expressed their thanks for the toy donations.
- 7.2 Opening Pitch: Kate said via email that she will confirm arrangements with Woody's.
- 7.3 Kate said via email that Swallows is looking for new sponsor. She has reached out to potential sponsors.
- 7.4 Winter event: Mark wondered if there would be league event this winter. Chad suggested a brunch be held. He also suggested a trip to the batting cages.
- 7.5 Ken said that Chantel may assist Kate with events.
- 8. Other Business**
- 8.1 Next MCM Meeting – Mon Feb 12. MARK TO BOOK 519. Managers to be advised.
- 8.2 Next Executive Meeting – Feb 13, 2018 – 7 pm - MARK TO BOOK 519 if available.
- 8.3 New Category of Membership: Ryan proposed that opportunity be offered for players to sign up as non team members + play part-time on call up basis + be invited to participate in player clinics. Ryan said they could be given the option to join a team part way through the season. Ken said that this would not be an insurance problem. Mark suggested a \$75 membership fee. Ryan said this would be good for veteran players.
- 8.4 Kevin said we would need to specify rules for this new type of membership.
- 8.5 Scheduling Committee: *Ryan to give Kevin the language for this request as well so he can email members asking for volunteers.*

***The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.***