

# West Region Knothole Board Meeting

Date: August 30, 2018

Location: PYO

Attendees: Gene Drozd, Glenn Schaaf, and Bill O'Brien

## Items Discussed:

1. Review of GCKA Meeting of August 20, 2018
  - a. Change in the status of Jeff Wiles
    - i. GCKA contract with Jeff (Executive Director Contract) entered into as of August 1, 2016.
    - ii. Parties agreed amicably to terminate that Contract as of June 30, 2018 (termination due to Jeff's obtaining employment outside of GCKA).
    - iii. Jeff to continue voluntarily in his role as President of GCKA (Knothole Baseball, Inc.).
    - iv. As his schedule permits, Jeff will continue in his efforts to seek donations and grants for the benefit of GCKA.
  - b. GCKA Financial Status:
    - i. Jeff Wiles owed \$30,600 in deferred compensation with payment of such amount to be made in full or incrementally as revenues become available (there are NO defined time parameters within which any such payment(s) is to be made, such payments to be made as the Treasurer of GCKA determines that funding of any such payments will not hamper the day-to-day operations of GCKA).
    - ii. As of July 31, 2018, GCKA has a bank balance of \$8,924.97
    - iii. There is no plan to increase regional fees to fund the above amounts. It is anticipated that the monies will be raised thru fund raising activities/donation solicitations conducted by GCKA).
  - c. In addition to the \$30,600 in compensation owed to Jeff Wiles, GCKA also has an outstanding obligation to the GCKA North Region in the amount of \$9,000 (loan from the North Region to fund salary expenses of Executive Director).
  - d. Management of GCKA – the following resolutions were unanimously approved:
    - i. Termination of the contract of Jeff Wiles (with Jeff continuing to serve in the capacity of Executive Director on a voluntary (unpaid) basis and in that capacity will continue fund raising activities (securing grants and obtaining donations) for GCKA.
    - ii. The election of officers of GCKA will be suspended for the fiscal year of 2018/2019 as a result of the change in the role of Jeff Wiles and to permit the corresponding transition in management from the executive director and to allow for continuity in fund raising efforts and the possible creation of a new region within GCKA (the "Central Region" – to be comprised

primarily of communities within the boundaries of the City of Cincinnati Public Schools).

e. Baseball Matters:

- i. Contracts will be an editable pdf form in 2019 (thus eliminating the need for paper copies to be collected – process can be completed online).
- ii. The existing bat rule will remain in place for 2019. No change will be required (specifically the USA Bat Standard will NOT be adopted this year – this standard is intended to create “wood like performance in youth baseball bats) (more information on the link below):

<https://blog.justbats.com/new-youth-baseball-bat-standard-usabat-effective-jan.-1-2018>

- iii. Patches will only be used in the North Region.

2. West Region Matters:

- a. Sharonville was allowed by GCKA to move from the West Region to the North Region in the 2018 season.
  - i. This was allowed despite the objections of the West Region.
  - ii. The West Region experienced a slight decline in the total number of teams participating in Knothole Baseball in 2018 (from the 2017 number of teams participating).
- b. WR Goal is to try to increase the number of communities participating (getting a higher level of participation (from the Northwest League and others) and hopefully increase the number of teams in existing communities
  - i. If necessary the West Region Board may authorize a one time (“try-me”) reduction in team league participation fees (but not in tournament fees).
- c. Region is in need of a couple of people to function as webmaster and possibly assume a Board level position.
  - i. Goal is to expand the website
- d. Financial Matters:
  - i. Team League Fees will remain the same as last year (\$125/team to be paid at the time of submission of scheduling forms by the Community Coordinators).
  - ii. Tournament fees will remain at \$125/team (fee is the same for teams participating in Regional or World Series Tournaments). This fee will continue to be payable at the time of the registration of the team in either of the above tournaments.
  - iii. PYO hosted the D Junior and D Senior Tournaments
  - iv. Teams in the C and B levels playing in Regional Tournaments played in the North Region.
  - v. Total fees collected from all West Region teams participating in World Series or Regional Tournaments was \$5,350.
  - vi. Tournament expenses (registration fees to the North Region and for the World Series as well as the cost for the trophies, balls, umpire fees and field fees for the Regional Tournaments held in the West Region totaled \$8,564.09
    1. Note the above expenses includes the payment of \$5,350 to GCKA for West Region Teams participating in the World Series.

2. Gene provided the West Region Tournament and Financial Snapshot for a summary of the tournament fees incurred and paid by the West Region.
- vii. Current funds in West Region Bank Account: \$2,984.01.
  1. Bank details were provided by Gene.
  2. Note, this is a substantial improvement in the West Region's financial position from last year (at the conclusion of the 2017 season after all expenses, including tournament expenses, were paid, the West Region's bank balance was approximately \$125.
- viii. It is anticipated that the same scheduling format will be followed in 2019. Season will start in approximately mid-April and conclude in mid-June. Tournaments (both Regional and World Series) will conclude before July 4<sup>th</sup>.
  1. GCKA continues to encourage post July 4 All Star type games and tournaments
- ix. The Community Coordinators Meeting will be rescheduled from September 17<sup>th</sup> to October 17<sup>th</sup>.