



DENVER AREA SOFTBALL LEAGUE



Meeting Minutes *April 26, 2020*

Opening

A special meeting of the Denver Area Softball League was called to order at 11:10 am, on April 26, 2020 via Skype Conference Call by Commissioner Becky Richmond. Introductions were given to board members as well as managers and players.

Members Present

Becky Richmond – Commissioner

Thomas Pugh – Assistant Commissioner – Open Division

Mike Barrett – Secretary

PC – Treasurer

Katelyn Backowski – Assistant Commissioner – Women’s Division

Nate Larkins – Open Division Member at Large

Thomas Herrera – Open Division Member at Large

Kat Martinez – Women’s Division Member at Large

Guest Present

Jason Ashby – Storm

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was emailed to the membership prior to the board meeting. No additions to the agenda by membership.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the April 19, 2020 meeting were reviewed by the membership. Nate Larkins moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting; Katelyn Backowski seconded the motion. Passed.

Treasurer’s Report

No Treasurer’s Report was given at this time as the meeting was called to address the lifting on Governor Polis’ Stay at Home Order and Mayor Hancock extending Denver County Stay at Home Order until May 8, 2020 and what impacts of the order will be on the season and or the start of the season slated for May 17, 2020.

Open Issues & Public Comment

Public Comment – No Public Comment currently.

DENVER AREA SOFTBALL LEAGUE

COVID 19 Discussion

- ***NAGAAA Update*** - Becky and PC updated the membership on how NAGAAA was addressing the issues around COVID 19. The meeting was held via conference call on April 22, 2020. NAGAAA recognizes the challenges with seasons due to COVID 19. Qualifications seasons were discussed and NAGAAA acknowledges that there needs to be some flexibility during this time in regard to the requirements of qualifying for the GSWS as they want to look at everyone's situation. NAGAAA is working with Columbus, OH and sponsors for a path forward. PC stated that NAGAAA has released a fact sheet that has been released on their webpage.
- ***State of Colorado Stay at Home, Safer at Home and Denver County extensions of the county Stay at Home*** – On April 26, 2020 Governor Polis' Statewide Stay at Home Order expired. The next phase of the Colorado specific order from the Governor will be Safer at Home and specific guidelines of this order can be found on the State of Colorado's Department of Public Health & Environment's website. While the State of Colorado SAHO was lifted, Denver County has extended as of this week their SAHO which is to expire on May 8, 2020 by Mayor Hancock.
- ***Denver Parks & Recreation*** – Becky discussed the recent press releases that state no alcohol is allowed in public parks, no sports, no sharing of equipment, which have all been recently released during the week in numerous news articles and releases. PC stated that she has been in communication with Denver Parks & Recreation since the news releases by the media and all communication stated that permits will continue to be released on May 14, 2020. PC discussed that as a possibility from own interpretation that paid permits may be exempt from what has been released to the media as the communication is unclear and needs to be verified as suggested by Kat Martinez. Kat also suggested that some type of communication be sent out to registered teams regarding player registrations and Opening Day prior to May 8, 2020. PC suggested to utilize the May 17 "Opening Day" as a field and registration day for players to physically register and to also offer teams a chance to practice for roughly an hour each. Becky then called for further discussion and Jason Ashby expressed concern about the time frame allowed and suggested that not all teams arrive at the same time. PC stated that anyone that had concerns could register from their vehicle and Kaitlyn agreed to address concerns players may have. For the field day each team is responsible for their own equipment such as bats and balls. PC suggested that we poll the team managers on a preferred time that they would like to take the field for a practice. Mike Barrett recommended that the board looks at everything in smaller pictures that address the registration and field day separate. The membership was then asked about their concerns with the virus. Thomas Herrera stated that each player should understand that taking the field and participating should be done based on players own preferences. Becky then discussed the player waiver language with the membership. Kat again stressed that communication needs to be sent out to teams and to follow that communication up with another that references the

DENVER AREA SOFTBALL LEAGUE

guidelines that the county gives to Parks & Recreation. PC will reach out to Parks & Recreation on April 27, 2020 for further details.

- **Summary** – PC will reach out to the Denver Parks & Recreation on April 26, 2020 to ask about how the rules impact a permit. Becky will work on communication to teams that Thomas Pugh and Katelyn will send out to each of the teams in their divisions and to provide feedback from teams at the next board meeting. After receiving the feedback, the board will then develop a plan of action going forward.
- **Scholarship** – Thomas Pugh and PC have worked together to develop a scholarship that will help players that have been impacted by the virus in paying for player registration fees. Thomas Herrera stated that players should work with their managers independently to help maintain a sense of discretion and respect those privacy as much as possible.

Next Meeting

- PC suggested to wait at least two weeks before the next meeting until the board can gather further guidance from the county. Nate moved to instruct that PC will work with Becky on communications with Parks & Recreation, Kat seconded the motion. Passed.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:09 pm. The motion was made by Thomas Pugh and seconded by Katelyn. Becky stated that the next board meeting will be TBD based on communication of the rules and correspondence to teams via skype with the board and membership.

Minutes submitted by: *Michael J. Barrett*

Approved by: