

EWBC Meeting - October 1, 2011
Rockville, MD
Summary

Attendees: Board members- JoAnn, Dave (Flames), Jan (Blues), Jen (Fury), Richard (Cats), Bonnie as Red's proxy (Thunder). Non-members- Susan McCarthy (Cats)

1- 2011 Season - what worked, what didn't

- Team managers acknowledged several improvements: no use of player pool, no forfeits, only a couple mercy games, good umpires in general, except for one.
- Of Cats who provided feedback, three didn't like split double-headers (consecutive Saturday-Sunday games), one didn't like weeknight games, and one didn't like that the season ended before Labor Day.
- Many players did not like the abrupt end of the season and the fact that there were no playoffs.
- Board members noted that playoffs were scheduled but rained out in August, and that the Board had decided and informed players at the beginning of the season that the 2011 season would end at the end of August. This change was made in 2011 due to the string of playoff forfeits that occurred in September in previous years.

2- Fall Ball

- Four fields were obtained for Fall Ball: Jefferson HS in Alexandria, VA, Robert E. Lee HS in Springfield, VA and West Potomac HS in Alexandria, VA, all for 5pm on Saturdays, and Dogwood Park in Rockville for 9:30 on Saturdays, Sept 24 and Oct 22.
- Turnout for the first game (Jefferson , Sept 17) was disappointing but not all players had received the league email. Lighting on the field was bad, so future VA games will be on the other fields.
- Sept 24 game was rained out.
- Jan will look into Southwest Academy for Oct 29. Catonsville CC was also discussed as a possibility.
- JoAnn will email remaining schedule to players and get head count. Bonnie will invite Philly players.

3- Tournament/Thunder Activities

- Richard reported that he had been contacted by the Japanese consulate and they may bring a team from Japan to the Memorial Day tourney. Bonnie, Jen, and Jan talked about hosting Japanese players this year and Iraqi players last year through the State Department sports program and how rewarding that experience is.
- The issue of Thunder eligibility was discussed briefly, i.e. should players who don't play in the league be permitted to play on the Thunder and should players who play for other tournament teams be allowed to play in the EWBC. This topic will be on the agenda for the December meeting with Thunder players urged to attend and express their views.
- A question was raised about the 20-person roster limit for our insurance policy. JoAnn will investigate. JoAnn will also add Hobbs as co-insured.

4- Girls Baseball

- Richard discussed recruiting girls for baseball at county fairs and reaching out to other girls baseball organizations, such as Pawtucket, Pioneers, and Toronto, for ideas on recruiting.

5- Fundraising

- Bar Night, first Thursday in November (Nov 3), Sign of the Whale in DC. Ladd is POC.
- Richard suggested we hire a PR firm to help with fundraising.
- JoAnn mentioned CFC campaign about to kick off.

6- Off-Season Activities/Recruiting

- Recruiting committee will be created. Both Richard and JoAnn said they would like to work on recruiting.
- Richard will also form a committee to develop the video. Suggestion was made to get a film student from a local college. Richard will inquire at Montgomery College, JoAnn at GMU. Richard will ask Lisa Scott to inquire at Howard, and Jen will ask Red to inquire at Towson. GWU is another possibility.
- JoAnn will schedule VBC for indoor winter workouts. Jan will schedule BASES.

7- Elections/Bylaws

- EWBC bylaws currently state that officers are elected by Board vote (a simple majority) and that to be eligible for officer positions, a person must have served as a member of the Board or as a committee chair the previous year. Board members were polled for interest in serving as an officer in 2012. Board members are Richard, Jan, Jen O'Keefe, Dave, and Red. As Tournament Director, Bonnie is chair of the tournament committee. Richard is interested in Treasurer. Bonnie is interested in Vice President for 2012 and expressed that she might be interested in President for the 2013 season. JoAnn agreed to run for President for the 2012 season, expressing that she would prefer a more limited role after that. No other members expressed interest in officer positions. Bonnie will ask Red if she has any interest in Secretary. There was a brief discussion of Secretarial duties: meeting minutes, league communications regarding meetings and events, and website updating are included among duties.
- JoAnn will send league email re next meeting and elections and post bylaws on website.

8- Other Business

- Richard is going to look into getting the baseball fields at Kelly Park and Montgomery Community College for some of our games next season.

9- Schedule next meeting

- November 5, 10am, Fairfax County Library (Jen will reserve.)