

**LAKE ORION MEN'S "WORLD FAMOUS" TEAM DRAFTED  
SOFTBALL LEAGUE  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
11:00 am MARCH 1, 2015**

Meeting was called to order at 11:12am

Dean addressed the players stating that 1% to 3% of the players are giving the league a bad name. We need to stick up for one another and show sportsmanship. Everyone is responsible for their own behavior. If someone is caught by the township for drinking at the fields they are done in this league.

**1. Welcoming message, agenda for the meeting. Dean/Nick Christi.**

Nick Thanked everyone for the patronage and hope everyone enjoyed themselves.

**2. Introduction of Kelly MacDonald, "Blessings in a Backpack – Lake Orion". Dean/Golf Committee rep.**

Kelly,

Thanked everyone for the donation and stated that they started BIABPLO 2.5 years ago for food assistance for about 20% of the LO family that require it. Each pack holds about 6 meals for the weekend and cost about \$2.60 because of Meijer's generous help. They pack 300 to 325 back packs per week and you could volunteer to help by going to [Blessinginabackpacklakeorion.org](http://Blessinginabackpacklakeorion.org). It's cost about \$100 per year for one child. Every dollar that is donated goes to the children because every position in the organization receives no money so there is no overhead.

**3. Golf Outing information.**

Dean spoke on behalf of the golf committee. Golf outing is at Oxford Hills this year August 8<sup>th</sup>. \$55 per player.

**4. Introduction of Brian Matellac, Detroit's Own. Dean**

Brian stated that everything is done in house and there product is top notch. Pacific hats 404m is the most popular but the 487 is a sweet hat that range from \$17 to \$20 each.

Semi –dye they can produce but are limited in the color White, gray, orange, yellow, blue. Cost range from \$20-25.

Full die have no limitations and cost from \$37 to \$43 but he did offer our league a special cost of \$37.

He also said they could make anything even underwear. There is an art fee and digitizing fee of \$55. Arm sleeves for \$15

## **5. Wall of Fame. Dave Miller.**

Rob spoke on behalf of the committee. He said anyone could ask to join the committee as long they had at least 15 years in the league.

Any player can nominate a retired player for the wall, it does not have to come from someone on the committee.

It takes a 70% approval from the committee to join the Wall of Fame.

## **6. Introduction of Umpire in Chief – Glenn Thorpe. Dean**

Glenn's first comment was to address the players that stand behind the backstop giving the umpire and player grief. He stated that he still could eject or throw someone out even if they were a spectator. He asked if you could limit the swearing and give the umpires a break. Managers need to speak to the umps instead of having 5 players yelling at them. Lastly, he wished that everyone could have a good time playing and watching.

## **7. Introduction of Bill Horton. (NSA). Darren**

The Board met with Bill, one hour before the general meeting began so I am going to start with that meeting because he brought up a lot of the same topics to us and repeated it to the players during the general meeting.

Bill started by saying that he has had 40 years of being a part of the LOMSL and it was his loyalty that kept him from dropping us 5 years ago. But at his current position NSA director that it is a business and he see stupid lawsuits happening that he is responsible to oversee. NSA is who we get or liability insurance from and it is a \$4 million a year policy. He was thinking about dropping us because of our UIC decision. He stated that he had no loyalty towards Dale. But he did say that Dale did a good job of buffering our BS from him. Dale had a good ump attendance record even though no one wanted to ump our games. He again stated that he reaches out

to all the umps asking who wants to ump our league and the response he get is Hell No.

One good point that Bill brought up was he though we should have a League Supervisor. Make them responsible to report to Bill and the Board any issues with the umpires or even player problems. The Supervisor would be present at the games to oversee and even give judgment for protest by a team. He said because we do not have the Protest Rule in our by-laws that we revert back to the NSA which say's a player can protest a game for a \$75 dollar fee.

Bill also told us the best way to communicate with him was to e-mail him at [bhorton@playnas.com](mailto:bhorton@playnas.com). His cell phone is off limits. He also said that we need to fill out injury reports when someone is hurt. The umpire should have the reports and needs to be filled out because of insurance issues. NSA does not supply health insurance only liability insurance. He said he could hook a team/player up with health insurance for a reasonable cost.

He said we need at least 6 umpires, that will be in uniform and drinking by the umps is not allowed and will not be tolerated. He said that he would be meeting with the umpires and he will tell them not to tolerate BS, f-bombs, and throwing bats or you will be tossed.

Equipment that we would be using is 52-275 balls and every bat must have the NSA 2012. Umps will not be policing bats, we must police it our self.

## **8. Brandon Lietke's financial state of the league.**

Brandon kept it short and sweet but showed that we are short this year because the township raised the field fees by \$1800. Ump fees were also going up \$5 per game but the Sponsor fee being raise from \$200 to \$250 would help cover the umpire increase. Also having 13 rounds this year did help to offset some of the field cost.

He thanked Brian McCall for the \$400 he raised and also thanked Nick Walls for the 50/50 and bat raffle. A huge thank you goes to Margret Gembel and Michelle Walls for their help in selling tickets for the league.

## **9. Erik Davenport's Player Rep message.**

Erik kept it short also because we wanted to get the draft started. He told everyone in the room that by being in there that they showed they cared for the league. He wanted all the players to make each other comfortable, to show sportsmanship and we all make mistakes. We are human and we need to get along with each other. Respect is key for players, fans and umpires.

The league is very special to him and he thanked everyone for his opportunity.

## **10. Township news. Dean, Todd & Brandon.**

Dean stated that the township was adding lights to Friendship ball fields and he did not know how it was going to turn out for next year but we may have to play more games at Friendship. A few of the player suggested that they get rid of the gravel fields. Horton stated that most of the new softball fields were being built with 325 foot fences.

He also said that Lori Barton of the township said they would have people out at our games looking for people drinking and she knows about our solo cups.

Dean also talked about the lights at Civic Center that they were not on a timer and the coaches or some player in the last game needed to make sure they were turned off before leaving for the night. The league will be fined if they are left on all night and it was said that the 4 coach's that have the late games should be responsible for turning the lights off.

## **11. Schedule; All-star game, pig roast, banquet, & fundraisers. Everyone.**

All Star Game is 7/19/15 at 7pm. There will be no hot dogs or food sold at the All-star game. We will have a 50-50 raffle.

Pig Roast 7/25/15 draft for teams starts at 9am. We will be having two pigs this year.

Banquet 9/26/15 6pm we are hoping to have it at Knight of Columbus with Christi's doing the catering.

## **12. Web site. Everyone.**

Dean also said that one of the most important parts of the meeting was to tell everyone about the new website. LOMSL.com, .net or .org. Coaches, Board and players can communicate with each other. He also said it would be the coaches responsibility to get their players signed up on the site. Once they have their team signed up they can communicate with their players and no one else can see.

**Players could also register and pay on line the day after the banquet or anytime up until the final registration date for the next season. We could also use the website to register for the banquet to get a correct head count.**

### **13. Open discussion, By-law changes/additions. Everyone. Submitted By Dean**

1. Remove any section that refers back to a particular section i.e.; Article 2 Sec 6 a., A5 S2 a., A7 S4 e., A7 S11 a., & A11 S9 a.

This will remove the redundancy in the by-laws. **Passed 40-0**

2. Remove A1 S2 C. to read: "Member must have signed the required Pre-Registration Documents".

The documents change ever year & with the new web site capabilities, we can add the registration forms on to the site. **Passed 40-0**

3. A3 S1 d. add at the end of "mail them in" to include "by the last day & time of registration for the upcoming season". **Passed 40-0**

4. A3 S1, f. Late fee only on the last day to register, web site & in person. **Passed 40-0**

5. A3 S1 g,h,& i. Members will be notified by the new web site for all league information. **Information only no vote.**

6. Any wording in the by-laws that refers to LOMSLS.COM has to be changed to the new web site; Sports.bluesombrero.com/lomsl and/or lomsl.com, .net., .org, and .info or any site referring to the league other than the current site must be removed from the Internet unless written permission is given by current board. We have the rights to LOMSL, Lake Orion Men's World Famous Team Drafted Softball League, and/or any name referenced to the lomsl. **Passed 40-0**

7. A5 S1 c. Remove "Quorum" a quorum is a meeting by definition. **Passed 40-0**

8. A5 S1 b. Notice should include: "at any time a meeting could be held for emergency decisions only determined by the board members as long as the required amount of members are present including the Annual Banquet". **Passed 39-1**

9. A5 S1 d. conflicts with A6 S1 a. They are both meetings. "The only scheduled meetings are annual general meeting and annual coaches meeting/slotting". **Passed 39-1**

10. A6 S2 e. propose that the Player Rep and 1 other board member and/or 1 other coach be present to draw from the hat. **Passed 40-1**

11. A6 S4 a. Propose change to read: "Dues will cover the current banquet cost for a member if there is less than 5 games remaining in the current season". **Failed 1-39**

12. A6 S5 d. change to " 8 players" not "10 players". **Failed 10-14**

12. A6 S5 d. change to " 9 players" not "10 players". **Passed 20-4**

13. A7 S19 b. change to "coaches" not "sponsor". **Passed 24-0**

SUBMITTED BY Ricky Slater **Ricky pulled his submissions.**

A4 F4 No by-law for submitting by law.

A6 S1c Proposed to add Trading Draft Position to be announced by end of day before the draft.

SUBMITTED BY Brandon Lietke

A6 S2 d1&2 Brandon would like to submit going back to where hat picks were pulled at the end of the draft to fill the determined position/round to complete the draft. Luck of the draw. **Failed 3-21**

SUBMITTED BY Erik Davenport

The first coach that picks in the draft will have the last pick in the draft. The last drafted round will be reversed, 12 picks first and 1 picks last **Failed 4-20**

## **14. Conclusion Meeting Adjourned.**

**Break for 10-15 mins for draft set-up.**