



## Board Meeting Minutes 03/22/2010

The Board of the Mid-Atlantic Amateur Softball Association met on 3/22/2010. The following were in attendance:

John L. - Commissioner  
Ronnie B. – Assistant Commissioner  
Ronnie L. – Treasurer  
Charlie H. - Secretary  
Dan B. – Ex-Officio  
Dan W. – Coach of Sting

The Agenda was set by the Secretary.

*Meeting is called to order at 6:00 PM.*

### **Finance**

Ronnie L. provided a detailed analysis of the league's current finances. With approximately \$2200.00 in our account, we are financially sound for the upcoming season. The board also discussed insurance for the league. There are four teams this season that will need to pay for insurance. Bollinger Insurance is the company that will be providing this insurance. Insurance must be paid by April 1. The cost of the insurance is \$281.00 per team and must be given to Ronnie L. by 3/23.

### **March Madness Fundraiser**

The first March Madness Fundraiser is underway! We sold a total of 29 brackets at \$5.00 each, for a total of \$145.00. After expenses are deducted, roughly \$145.00 will be split 50/50 between the winner and the league. We also received \$10.00 as a donation through the March Madness website.

This type of fundraising could have brought in a lot more money than it did. The Dallas Wreckin' Crew sold a total of 261 brackets at \$10.00 for their team through a similar fundraiser. This year, our March Madness fundraiser was not posted until 3/6. This gave participants 8 days notice before the event began. Next year, more notice will be given for the players and coaches can ask their players to help out with the fundraiser. One of the concerns was about the tokens, and having to wait up to an hour to receive your token code. This is necessary to ensure that funds are received before a bracket can be entered.

The board discussed how player participation must increase for future fundraisers. The board will ask the coaches to ensure that their players participate more in future fundraisers and league events.

### **PayPal Update**

The league received an e-mail from PayPal requesting documentation from the league. Without this documentation, PayPal indicated that the league's account could be frozen. John L. called PayPal and told them that the league never indicated that we were a 5013c or a Non-Profit. PayPal is asking MAASA to find this information and provide it to them as soon as possible. John L. will give PayPal the information as soon as it is available. John L. spoke to two of his players and they expressed concern that they would have to pay a fee by using PayPal. Players are not responsible to pay the fees as the league incurs this charge. Players will be informed of this by an update added to the website.

On April 1, the league registration fee will return to the \$75.00 rate. Up until 11:59 PM on 3/31, the \$5.00 discount will remain in effect. After 3/31 players may inquire about having to pay \$75.00 instead of \$70.00. Players need to know that the \$70.00 is a discount and that \$75.00 is the regular fee.

### **The Garage – Fundraising Opportunity**

Ronnie L. was approached by Mike Thompson, manager of The Garage, about MAASA doing some fundraising at The Garage. Mr. Thompson stated that the league could sell Jello shooters, or conduct a 50/50 raffle one Friday per month. This is an excellent money-making opportunity because no other team/organization will be there at our scheduled time. Mr. Thompson will require anyone who is working the fundraiser to be in uniform. The cost to run the fundraiser is \$40.00 which would purchase the alcohol. Jello and shooter cups are not provided, however Dan B. stated that he had plenty to donate to the league.

The board thought it would best if the weeks were split between the league and the players who go to the World Series. When it is the leagues turn to be at The Garage, all proceeds would go to the league account. However, when a player going to the World Series works the fundraiser, those proceeds would go into a fund to off-set the cost of sending the players to the World Series. Only players who participated in the fundraiser would receive the funds.

In the past when the Nighthawks conducted similar fundraisers, they would leave with \$300-\$700 per night. This is an excellent way to raise money fast. Proposed dates for April and May are: April 16 or 30 for the league and May 14 or 21 for the World Series players. Dan B. will order business cards that can be passed out to fans to inform them of our schedule and invite them to come and be part of the action at Northside Park.

### **Updating The Schedule On The Website.**

The MAASA website shows the schedule for the 2010 season. This posted schedule is an easy way for players to see what times they are playing each week. In the case of inclement weather, Charlie H. and/or John L. will visit the fields by 6:45 AM on game day to make a decision regarding the fields. If there is a delay or a cancellation, an e-mail will be sent out to all players with the decision by 7:00 AM.

### **Richmond**

Since many of the players from the Cavaliers live in Richmond, the board is looking into scheduling one of the game days in Richmond. Possible field locations will be scoped out by Dan B. and he will report back to the board his findings.

### **Team Rosters**

As of 3/22, MAASA has four teams for the 2010 season. They are; Tidewater Breakers, Virginia Cavaliers, Evil Empire Strikes Back, and Sting. Each team will have between 12 – 15 players. Some players are concerned about paying but not being able to play the entire season. Returning players will be required to pay the full \$75.00 registration fee to play. However, if **new** players come into the league late, they can pay at a reduced fee. The reduced fee will be as follows.

If a <b>new</b> player registers:	After 4/18 their registration fee is \$70
	After 5/2 their registration fee is \$65
	After 5/16 their registration fee is \$60
	After 6/6 their registration fee is \$55
	After 6/13 their registration fee is \$50
	After 6/27 their registration fee is \$45
	After 7/11 their registration fee is \$40
	After 7/25 their registration fee is \$35
	After 8/8 their registration fee is \$30

### **World Series**

The World Series this year will run from August 16 through August 21 in Columbus, Ohio. There is a great interest in attending the World Series by MAASA players. MAASA must register by July 15 and pay all fees by August 1. Players who are interested in going need to let their coach know as soon as possible. A \$75.00 non-refundable deposit is due by June 14. At the current time, it is unclear what level team MAASA will be sending. There is the possibility that we could send a B team, or a C team. If there is enough interest we could send both. However, if more C players sign up than B players, we may end up sending a C team instead of a B team. If this is the case, and you are a B player, then you would be eligible for refund. The same would apply if you were a C player and we sent a B team.

### **Meet-and-Greet**

The Norfolk meet-and-greet on Saturday, March 19 went extremely well. John L. and Ronnie L. scheduled a scrimmage between their two teams prior to the meet-and-greet. Everyone had a great time and was able to get back in the "Swing of Things" with their fellow teammates. We had five new players show up for the meet-and-greet and they also played in the scrimmage. We are very happy to welcome these new players and look forward to watching them play this season.

The next Meet-and-Greet will be in Richmond on Saturday 3/27. **October Tournament**

The possibility of hosting a softball tournament in October, The Seaside Showdown, was also discussed. A possible date for this tournament could be October over Columbus Day weekend. Dan B. contacted the City of Virginia Beach to inquire about the cost of the fields. A decision regarding the tournament will be made shortly by the board.

### **Commissioner Update**

NAGAAA is requesting \$100 from each league to help pay for the preservation of World Series items from past years. This money would be used to store the items during the year and then send them to the host city each year to be displayed at the World Series. A corporate sponsor has offered to match this donation up to \$5000. The board questions exactly what this money will be used for and has decided not to donate \$100 at this time. However the topic will be revisited at the next board meeting.

ASA has enforced a rule change regarding the pitching arch height. The new rule is 6' from release to 10' maximum height off the ground.

*The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.*