

Vintage Softball Club

Board of Directors Meeting

May 05, 2020

Attendees:

Officers:

Jeff Greenberg, President
Mark Loveless, Vice President
Mike Friedman, Secretary
Don Shrank, Treasurer



Directors:

Brian Adams
Chris Milosovich
Jeff Hacker
Jim Palte
Rob Gelphman

Commissioners:

Tom Simpson, Fun league
Lou Silver, Saturday league
Jack Boniface, Tuesday/Thursday leagues

President's Comments:

We held the Board meeting via Zoom, the videoconferencing tool many of you have probably become familiar with during the shelter in place. The good news, with no conflicts these days, all 12 Board members were present. The meeting went very smoothly, despite having the 12 people on a call. We are likely to hold the next meeting via Zoom as well and are considering handling all future meetings this way.

The issue on many of our minds is when can we re-open? We are tied to the city of San Jose and Moffett field allowing their fields to be used. We will let you know once we have word, but for now things remain closed. We will re-open only when it's safe for our members, and I would expect new safety rules to be put in place as well. Please be aware that your board is doing everything it can to get our league started as quickly and safely as possible.

Stay safe and healthy and please continue to visit our website regularly for updates.

New Members:

WELCOME to new club member Eric Fontaine, who officially snuck in just before the shutdown.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The Board approved the March 2020 Board meeting minutes that are posted on our website.

Treasurer's Report:

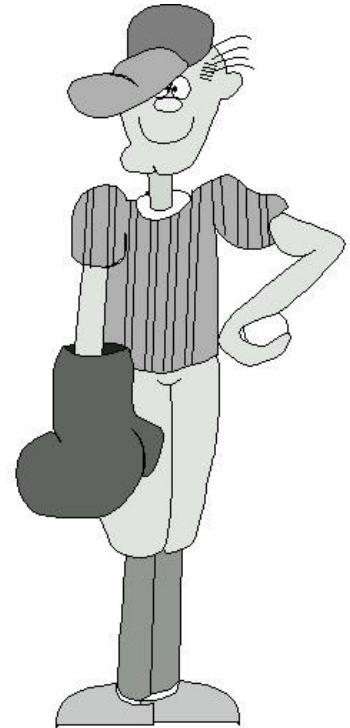
There was almost no activity over the previous two months during the shutdown, so the update was brief.

The Board approved the report.

Rules Committee Report:

- We discussed the issue of some batters purposely not being pitched to, with some batters walking four or more times in our games. We reiterated that this goes against the ideals of our club with the emphasis on having FUN (vs. *WINNING*). While only a handful of batters are truly affected, everyone gets to hit. Pitchers SHOULD pitch to all batters and do whatever they can to avoid 4 pitch walks (or 3 pitch walks if the batter starts 1-1).

We debated putting together a formal rule, but agreed to work with the managers first to have them communicate with their pitchers that they are expected to throw strikes to all batters (with the exception of the open inning where intentional walks are allowed, generally to set up a force play assuming runner(s) are on base). However, we agreed if this does not change behavior, we will institute a mandatory rule requiring batters to see at least one strike (we are trying to avoid these types of rules, so let's just change the behavior).





Old Business:

- **Dues:** We remain down approximately 20 members vs 2019, although some of the missing reflect those on injury hiatus (although maybe they will all be healthy when we resume). In March, we reported this as well, but it was fairly typical to our status in previous years at that time. However, with the shutdown, obviously no new players are signing up. We do have up to 30 potential new players- a combination of paid last year, injured, or new players expressing interest in joining.
- **Shirts, Hats and Balls:** Lou and Jack have some supplies of shirts or hats, and will distribute to each other once we resume play. We are in the process of ordering new hats, but are changing vendors. Rob Gelpman has agreed to take over the management of our shirts and hats supply.

We have about 45 dozen balls waiting to be picked up from our supplier once we resume. Mark Loveless will secure the balls for us.



New Business:

- **Michael Duggan Fund Raiser:** A year ago, our long-time club member, Michael Duggan, was stricken with a debilitating case of West Nile Virus. His condition worsened and to help the family deal with the costs involved, a GoFundMe effort was setup with an initial target of \$10,000. The Vintage community rose up in great support with over \$13,000 having been raised (along with a few direct donations). In addition, special thanks need to go to Jim Gurley and Bruce Kravitz for their above and beyond support of Michael.

Update: this news came post the board meeting but the club was saddened by Michael's passing on May 7th. The family is very appreciative of the support- financial and emotional- that the club has provided.

- **Vintage Re-opening:** At this time, we have no timeline for when we can start playing, although the assumption is that games will not resume until June at the earliest. Beyond the California overall restrictions, we have to wait until the city of San Jose and Moffett management open their fields. Then, due to our ages and pre-existing medical conditions, a determination needs to be made as to when it is safe for us to play and how should we play. For the Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday leagues, we would most likely try to keep the

current teams, with no new draft. However, before we start up, we will reach out to all club members to see who is ready to come back. This is a personal decision, and we fully understand people not being ready, especially those members either themselves or having family with health issues that increases the risk from playing.

Senior Softball USA is planning on opening tournaments in early June, assuming enough teams will show up, with a number of safety features being implemented. For instance, there are rules regarding social distancing, wearing of masks, and handling of bats and balls. (For a full list go to <https://seniorsoftball.com/?news&story=1625>.) We will likely use many of their guidelines.



League Commissioner's Reports:

Nothing to report

The Board voted to adjourn at 8:13 PM, PST.

The next meeting will be held July 7, 2020.



Please visit our web site at: <http://www.vintagesoftball.org>

The Goal of Vintage is to have **FUN**, be **FAIR** and play **SAFE**