



CBSL

Colchester Baseball & Softball League

Welcome to the home of the Colchester Baseball & Softball League
CBSL is a volunteer run, non-profit organization dedicated to supporting youth baseball and softball within the Colchester, Connecticut community.

CBSL
PO Box 114
Colchester CT 06415

March 6, 2023 – General Meeting Agenda 7:00 PM, Abundant Life Church

Attendees: Karen Belding Andrew Perham Tim Crowell Matt Parsons Sean Zettervall John Carroll, Seth Breitmiae Ed Peck, Donna Antonacc Nick Poirier Margo Gignac

Samantha Van Zilen, Bob Crowell, Mark Simone, Jim Bradow, John Naples, Evan Evans, Bryan Kowalsky, Joshua Seari, Amhy Pfaffenbach, Bill Kristoff, Tim Lafayette

Call to Order: 7:02

Minutes of Last Meeting: Provided by league secretary - find them on the website on About Us tab

- President report (Karen)
 - District changes: President of district 11, Everett, passed away - in the process of officially changing; go directly to regional office in the interim
 - Town just emailed out the phase 1 feasibility study - it's 40 pages long and available for everyone to review: <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/zUDPCYKSrajuhtP1ajAu4bq> - most fields are a "D" rating, R1 = C rating and 2 fields are E rating.
 - Town asked who would be interested in participating in Phase 2 of the feasibility study. Confirmed representatives from our league would definitely participate and asked for information, dates, etc. - All league presidents rec'd report from Parks & Rec (Tiffany Quinn).:
- Treasurer's report (Margo)
 - Monthly account read-out / tax status
 - Annual budget - need to establish planned revenue, planned expenses, wish list budget
- Karen was able to submit our By-Laws and Constitution on the LL website
- Sponsor update(Seth) - 6-10 new sponsors since last meeting; connected w/ Joel for ordering banners (if we order in bulk we can save money)
 - For 2024 - look into option for sponsorship / donation for raffle prize; check w/ tax assessor in town for list of businesses and/or tap into CBA
 - Evan to provide list of supporters of the former Rotary club
- **Action:** Seth to send Matt sponsor logos so they can be loaded to the website (minuteman may have the logos, Joel and/or Tim Chiaverini)
- Financial aid committee update - all applications have been reviewed and decisions have been made and communicated to applicants (**Action:** Donna needs to come off of all Treasurer emails - Karen/Matt will resolve)
- Safety plan - updated and completed by board for 2023

- Safety briefing at April 3rd general meeting @ Abundant Life church. **All coaches must attend** that meeting; coordinators should plan to meet with coaches immediately following
- Raffle
 - Raffle is our league's primary revenue generator (along with sponsorships); helps pay for equipment, field maintenance, etc. (past enhancements include scoreboards, equipment)
 - Opinion: Raffle Prizes - Gift cards or Items?
 - Some feel gift cards are more versatile (downside have to pay for the gift cards up front)
 - Some feel tangible items are more enticing
 - Others have seen cash prizes
 - Maybe ½ gift cards & ½ real items
 - We made the same profits either way
 - We need to know all prizes by end of March - we tend to give raffle tickets to athletes in early April
 - 6 named prizes last year (3 tangible prizes / 3 gift cards)
 - Instead of buying products up front (look up prize in advance - buy on amazon and have it shipped to winner)
 - Local businesses contribute and provide sponsorship
 - Downside to local businesses - they're hit hard throughout the year from all sides
 - Recommend asking business to donate something that bring customers to them
 - 100% gift cards for 2023; immediately following discuss other options in conjunction with sponsorships
 - Decision for 2023 – Gift Cards Only - recommend 6th place = "Colchester Gift Card Pack" - lots of smaller gift cards to multiple businesses
 - Matt Parsons will explore prize packs for Sea Unicorns & Yard Goats, New Britain Bees & woSox - for child prizes (scooners @ Dodd stadium)
 - Donna has list of logistics from 2022 and will share with Karen
 - Tim Chiaverini to coordinate; set actions list now
 - We will need volunteers to assist with parts of the raffle
 - Need to obtain town permit for Raffle once prizes are set
- Spring season planning
 - Key dates
 - Opened registration: 12/25
 - Closed registration: 2/20
 - Coach interviews: March 8 and 9 - need volunteer Board members
 - March 11th - All EOB meeting @ Matt Parsons house 218 Taylor Rd for finalization of coaches - 9 am
 - Evaluations: March 18/19
 - Gym permits - Andrew

- Gear swap / Merchandise - Margo can get the merchandise to assessments
- Clear out the storage
- Drafts: 6 pm March 22 (minors & majors); rookies @ Parsons on March 23
 - Karen asked Pastor Brown for the church (awaiting confirmation)
- Uniform orders submitted: prior to March 24
- Safety session (**mandatory for coaches**): April 3, part of general meeting
- CPR - tentatively April 1 - check with church
 - Karen asked Pastor Brown for the church (awaiting confirmation)
- Opening Day: April 22nd for baseball / 30th for Softball
 - Plans?
 - Budget?
- CBSL merchandise & gear swap
 - Currently @ Goldilocks
- Registration Update:

Program/Division	Player Count	
2023 Spring Baseball	249	
1) Big Red Bat (4 yr old)	21	
2) Tee Ball (5/6 yr old)	76	8 per team = 10 teams
3) Rookie - Coach Pitch - Baseball	71	10 per team = 7 teams (so say 8)
4) Minor - Baseball	42	10 per team = 4 teams (4 or 5?)
5) Major - Baseball	22	10 per team = 2 teams (2 or 3?)
6) Junior - Baseball	17	10 per team = 2 teams (need 3 more players?)
2023 Spring Softball	97	
1) Rookie - (6*/7/8) Coach Pitch - Softball	39	10 per team = 4 teams
2) Minor - (9/10) - Softball	18	10 per team = 2 teams
3) Major - (11/12) - Softball	32	10 per team = 3 teams
4) Senior - (13+) - Softball	8	10 per team = 1 team
Grand Total	346	

- Volunteer Update:

Program/Division	Head Coach	Assistant Coach	Team Specific Volunteer	Merchandise sales committee member	Raffle committee member	Special Event Volunteer	Umpire	Grand Total
2023 Spring Baseball	24	47	22		1	1	1	96
1) Big Red Bat (4 yr old)	1	5	1					7
2) Tee Ball (5/6 yr old)	4	10	8					22
3) Rookie - Coach Pitch - Baseball	9	13	5		1	1		29
4) Minor - Baseball	6	10	3					19
5) Major - Baseball	3	5	3				1	12
6) Junior - Baseball	1	4	2					7
2023 Spring Softball	8	18	13	1			2	42
1) Rookie - (6*/7/8) Coach Pitch - Softball	3	8	8	1			1	21
2) Minor - (9/10) - Softball	1	1	3					5
3) Major - (11/12) - Softball	4	7	2				1	14
4) Senior - (13+) - Softball		2						2
Grand Total	32	65	35	1	1	1	3	138

- Open Items:

- Nick to send email to karen / regions re: Hebron players (special registration required once exception is obtained)
 - Publicity: get the banner back? Pick up yard signs when?
 - Donna & Margo to pick-up
 - Town Green - margo will pick up from Park & Rec
 - Schedule CPR training; figure out list of required attendees
 - Awaiting confirmation from church
 - April 1st; 9 am - 1 pm
 - Offer to umpires as well as coaches
 - Anybody less than 6 months until expiration
 - Picture day - Sean
 - Tell them which dates - notify end of March (Bishop photo)
 - Volunteer background checks
 - Happening now - very few concerned it's a scam
 - Volunteer file - indicates who's complete and who is not
 - Page on our website that displays approved volunteers
 - Big Red Bat - Tim Chiaverini (with support from Bob Crowell & Greg Vilardo)
 - Umpires / training
 - Dodd Stadium for Jr Baseball - Matt confirming for May 7
 - Uconn day - John Carroll - May 7
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- General wish list - decisions made for 2023
 - Activities to complete:
 - Fencing: R4 - Matt/Fenceman
 - Fencing: Cody Camp, backstop - Matt/Fenceman
 - Fencing: curling @ R1
 - Batting Cage - R1:
 - Batting Cage - R5: John/Ed
 - Tarps:
 - Pitcher/Batter eyes:
 - Field Sponges:
 - Mound rebuilds: Hazen/Grundman Landscaping
 - Which fields - what dates?
 - Need volunteers
 - Need to sign off with town - Tim Angel
 - Base resets: all fields?
 - Speaker system - R2: Donna
 - Consider Speaker system for Cody Camp

2023 Approved Expense Breakdown				
Wish List Item	Owner	Price Range Low	Price Range High	Comments
R4 - fencing (by dugout), curling fence on Cody and R1	Matt	\$3,775	\$3,775	
R1 and R5 batting cages needs to be repaired replaced	Ed	\$0	\$9,500	Biggest of approximately \$9500 for batting cage work Nick to meet with Town on March 8th to discuss installation
Field Sponges (buy from internet)	Hazen	\$872	\$872	
Tarps	Nick	\$2,473	\$2,473	
R1 & R3 pitchers eye	Nick/John/Ed	\$255	\$255	
Pitching Mound Issues - rubber not high enough	Hazen	\$2,264	\$5,728	Low estimate is for two fields (one @ \$532 & one @ \$1732) and high estimate is for four fields (one @ \$532 & three @ \$1732) Action: Nick to follow-up with Hazen to check on weekend of March 25th and/or April 2nd and then gather volunteers to assist and notify the town
Replacement Bases	John/Nick	\$200	\$400	Low estimate is 4 rubber bases (\$50 ea) and high is 8 rubber bases (\$50 ea)
Speaker system for R2 (and maybe Cody Camp)	Donna	\$2,457	\$2,457	
Total		\$12,296	\$25,460	

Sand bags in storage - Baldi typically fills them for us

- Open Forum - any items?
 - Permits for schools & fields
 - town is re-working their system...you cannot request them at this time (no ETA when we'll be able to)
 - We have an agreement with Soccer & Lacrosse
 - Biggest concern - R3 / adult softball (adult softball may be sticking w/ the summer season)
 - Softball Pitching clinic (3 girls from each team who want to pitch) / include coaches

Adjourn Meeting: 8:45 pm

Next Meetings

- General Meetings: 1st Monday each month at 7 pm - next one is April 3rd
- EOB meetings are held twice monthly: 1st Monday (after the General Meeting) and the 3rd Monday of every month