



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

# April 3, 2023 – General Meeting Agenda 7:00 PM, Abundant Life Church

#### Attendees:

Board: Karen Belding, Tim Crowell, Seth Breitmiaer Matt Parsons, Andrew Perham Margo Gignac Sean Zettervall John Carroll Nick Poirier Donna Antonacc Ed Peck hazen.sturtevant@gmail.cor Samantha Van Zilen

Jeremy Ames, Kim Bellavance, John Bradford, James Bradow, Gina Civardi, Ryan Cove, Bernie Dennler, Michael Dubriel, Greg Emery, David Engue, Mike Garon, Melanie Goggin, Patrick Gross, Patrick Hawes, Courtney Houle, Richard Huster, Bill Kristoff, Eric Lamirande, Miles Lubben, Adam McLend, John Naples, Utal Parekh, Tony Pennella, Amy Pfaffenbach, David Prisco, Trevor Reid, Jacob Richard, Miguel Roman, Joshua Saari, Joe Sima, Brian Talarczyk, Kevin Tewksbury, Matt Trant, Greg Vilardo, Chris Waters

Call to Order: 7:08

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

- President report (Karen)
  - o District changes: President of district 11, new administrator (president) Craig McMahon
  - Town emailed out the phase 1 feasibility study it's 40 pages long and available for everyone to review; we put a link to it on our website - <u>www.cbsl.org</u>, go to the Information tab - link is under the 'Town Information' header
  - Ian Lacy working closely with DPW head of the assessment and phase 2 planning, met with Karen. Town is actively working with him; he is developing an action plan to deliver in the next few weeks. Asked us to send him an overview of our needs: our teams #s, fields needs, hours of practice/games per week, etc so he can create a plan around all leagues' desired uses. I will include our spring, tournament, summer sandlot, and fall season wishes.
- Treasurer's report (Margo) bills are paid; No additional report
- Financial aid committee update ~10 families assisted; one new application pending
- Sponsor update 46 sponsors (one sponsor for every team); waiting on payment from 1 sponsor. 25 new banners to be printed. 22 proofs approved. May spread banners across fields (\$16,100 raised). Joel is on vacation the week before opening day. May need assistance with

- uniform sorting / distribution (Sponsorships help keep registration costs low, scholarships & financial aid)
- Scholarships historically provided 2-4 scholarships to BA students. got the packet; Committee is meeting and will provide selections by April 10.
- Safety plan updated and completed by board for 2023
  - Safety briefing at the end of the meeting requires coaches to attend; coordinators meet with coaches after (must sign the last page of the safety plan)
- Raffle
  - Ticket proof approved; town for permit submitted & complete (just needs to be picked up)
  - Next steps: print tickets, prep envelopes to hand out, get all prizes
  - o Will send an email for volunteers to assist
  - Typically raises ~20,000 for the league
  - o This is our largest fundraiser for field improvements, equipment replacement, etc.
- Spring season planning
  - Key dates
    - Opened registration: 12/25 (done)
    - Close registration: 2/20 (late fees on for assessment divisions)
    - Coach interviews: March 8 and 9 (done)
    - Evaluations: March 18/19 (done)
    - Drafts March 20-23 (done) great job Andrew and John!
    - Uniform orders submitted (done): softball received, baseball ETA?
    - Safety session (mandatory for coaches): April 3, part of general meeting
    - CPR training April 1 (done)
    - Permits approved; need to request cody (who can do this?) ACTION: Submit request for Cody camp for baseball (Margo); waiting for confirmation for field use for
    - Opening Day: April 22nd for baseball / 30th for Softball
      - Baseball: Plans? Games start @ 11; \$1 coupon for the 3 cheers grill;
         DJ's is scheduled, National Anthem Budget? ACTION: Matt Parsons to check to see if Don Levine is available to do 1st pitch of the season
      - Softball: Plans? Budget? John notes: 431.99 Minuteman Press Award Medals; DJ Chris 135.00 Hr for 5 hours = 675.00 (11 am on the 30th) Karen Motion to approve \$\_\_\_\_; Seth 2nd (13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstain)
      - Updates from Tiffany Quinn in Park & Rec:
        - I want to share some important information with you, some of which is new this year.
          - With the concession stand now open, they have the contract to serve food. He can decide to allow food trucks at events, but please check with him first. Also, any food that is served (other than the concession stand) has to be approved by Chatham Health. I can send you their contact information if you need it.

- If you plan on using the pavilion, it will need to be reserved so we don't issue a permit to another group. I can send you the paperwork if you need it.
- Please don't allow any cars or trucks to drive on or park anywhere other than the parking lot. Please check in the week before if you would like to drive/park on the grass-public works will make a determination about the field/grass conditions and advise how they would like to accommodate you.

## • Registration Update:

Row Labels	Count of Player Last Name
2023 Spring Baseball	293
1) Big Red Bat (4 yr old)	26
Unallocated	26
2) Tee Ball (5/6 yr old)	88
Unallocated	88
3) Rookie - Coach Pitch - Baseball	80
BB_Rookies_Emeralds_Bradford	10
BB_Rookies_Grasshoppers_Tewksbury	10
BB_Rookies_Grizzlies_Breitmaier	10
BB_Rookies_Ironpigs_Parekh	10
BB_Rookies_Red Wings_Hlasyszyn	10
BB_Rookies_Rockhounds_Reid	10
BB_Rookies_Tides_Pennella	10
BB_Rookies_Yard Goats_Engle	10
4) Minor - Baseball	47
BB_Minors_Grasshoppers_Simone	11
BB_Minors_River Bandits_Poirier	12
BB_Minors_Rockhounds_Talarczyk	12

BB_Minors_Yard Goats_Roman	12
5) Major - Baseball	26
BB_Majors_Orioles_Bradow	13
BB_Majors_TB Rays_Kristoff	13
6) Junior - Baseball	26
Unallocated	26
2023 Spring Softball	109
1) Rookie - (6*/7/8) Coach Pitch - Softball	43
SB_Rookie_Team 1_McGlynn (Navy blue)	10
SB_Rookie_Team 2_Brenek (Royal Blue)	10
SB_Rookie_Team 3_Garon (Purple)	10
SB_Rookie_Team 4_Gruss (Lime)	10
Unallocated	3
2) Minor - (9/10) - Softball	26
SB_Minors_Team 1_Peck (Navy blue)	12
SB_Minors_Team 2_Michaud (Pink)	14
3) Major - (11/12) - Softball	32
SB_Majors_Team 1_Carroll (Navy blue)	11
SB_Majors_Team 2_Hawes (Pink)	11
SB_Majors_Team 3_Marshall (Purple)	10
4) Senior - (13+) - Softball	8
Unallocated	8
Grand Total	402

- Coaches can use the website to communicate with their teams; parents can communicate via the website as well w/ the coaches
- Game schedules need to be on the website. In order for this to be done, it must be entered into the template that is provided by the league (MS Excel)

- As the season progresses, if you want the website to officially cancel practices/games you need to notify Matt or Karen (understanding they have full time jobs as well)
- The website will be updated as soon as humanly possible
- If the town closes the fields we cannot overrule that (call will be made by 3 pm; after 3pm it's up to the league)
- Weekends are trickier we often cannot get the updates out to parents as quickly as the coaches can

### Volunteer Update:

- Make sure all head coach names are on list on website, go to 'Registration and Volunteer' tab and see the 'Approved Volunteer' page
- ALL volunteers (working with kids) need to be on the 'approved volunteer' page on the website; have to officially volunteer and finish background checks

## Open Items:

- Big Red Bat plans (Greg Vilardo) registration remains open for this league (no late fees) Starts 1st saturday in May; 6-week program (Volunteers will be needed to run stations); Karen is the board representative for BRB
- Umpires / training: John and Nick ⇒ Baseball: saturday April 8th = District schedule; Softball: John is looking for help getting in touch with the SB coach at Bacon Academy
- Dodd Stadium for Jr Baseball (Margo) May 7
- Uconn day John Carroll May 7
- Town/Field update: (Per Tim Angell / convo with Nick)
  - All fields are ready to go; volunteers helped prep Cody Camp; shed codes are ready
  - Margo has the new light code for the RecPlex
  - Mounds: there is movement on the Rich Clarko study, plans are in place to overhaul fields starting with R1 and R2, which is great news. Pending schedule, for example fall. We will have to perform maintenance to get them season ready vs. Prev investment proposed.
  - Fencing: Tim has requested 100K for complete fence overhaul, may get 10k in July, if budget passes.
  - Sheds are loaded with supplies
  - Action: Order Sponges (Ed Peck)
  - Town will put up the R1 batting cage (currently in R5 shed)
  - o R5 cage waiting for parts & quote
- Memorial day parade: application due to town in April Action: Karen to do
- Port-o-potties for Cody and R6 circle Action: Margo to order
- Coach related items:
  - Scheduling must use template! Submit to <a href="mailto:infomanager@cbsl.org">infomanager@cbsl.org</a> (we will send them template and instructions)
  - Coordinators work out how scheduling/time slots for fields will be done

- Official District 11 scheduling: (representatives, not all coaches)
  - Scheduling meeting April 8
  - Location: South Windham firehouse 41 machine shop hill rd South Windham
  - Softball: Majors 12 o'clock; Minors & Rookies 11 o 'clock
  - Baseball: Majors 12 o' clock; Minors & Rookies 1 o' clock
- "Bad" dates to keep in mind:
  - May 1; CBSL general meeting
  - May 6; first communion at St Andrew
  - May 6; CES / JJIS / WJJMS Yard Goats game
  - May 16; junior prom
  - May 13/14; lacrosse jamboree cannot schedule ANYTHING @ RecPlex (Cody Camp is exempt)
  - May 18; JJIS band concert
  - May 23; WJJMS band concert
  - May 28; Memorial Day festivities/parade
  - June 1; Bacon band concert
  - June 2; WJJMS band and chorus fun day
  - June 5; CBSL general meeting
  - June 16; Bacon Graduation
  - Anything else?

#### General wish list - decisions made for 2023

- Activities to complete:
  - Fencing: R4 Matt/Fenceman done
  - Fencing: Cody Camp, backstop Matt/Fenceman done
  - Batting Cage R1: town update with Nick
  - Batting Cage R5: John/Ed
  - Tarps:
  - Pitcher/Batter eyes: Done
  - Field Sponges: (Ed to Order)
  - Mound rebuilds: Nick/town updates and decisions
  - Base resets: evaluate fields/measure; work with town
  - Speaker system R2 and Cody Camp: Donna to work with Nick
  - Pitching machine for Cody: Ed got a quote (\$1,950) the one @ goldilocks was a softball pitching machine. No financial concern. Motion: SVZ - 2nd (11 for, 0 against 0 abstain)
- Open Forum
  - Matt P (currently info director); recently elected VP Rec Soccer any concerns? There is nothing in the by-laws the prevents info director from being involved. No board members raised a concern.
  - Anybody looking to join the CBSL Board: Next election cycle is October; can vote at a future meeting to add new board members off cycle
- Karen thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting

- Highlights of Safety briefing conducted by Tim Crowell
  - o Background checks must be completed for **ALL** volunteers working with the kids
  - Call / email Tim for any injury (and fill out the incident / injury report form) (extra copies are available on the website under forms & coaches resources)
  - When in doubt, fill out the incident / injury form
  - Tim must check-in with the athlete within 24 hrs
  - o Coaches Make sure you have contact information for parents on your team
  - At least 1 person at every game / practice MUST be CPR certified
  - Field safety if something doesn't look safe, cancel practice. Every coach should walk the fields / dugouts before every practice & game
  - No bats being swung outside the fences
  - Equipment: cups/jills, throat guards, face masks
  - o Coaches should not be catching for anybody during a league event
  - Severe Weather if you see lightning or hear thunder you must clear the field and wait in the cars for 30 minutes (clock resets for each instance of lightning)
  - AED at the R2 shed (central at the recplex)
  - No jewelry (chain necklaces, earrings..etc.)
  - Everyone is held to the Code of Conduct (spectators, coaches, athletes, other towns) any concerns should be brought to us (president, EOB) all complaints must be in
    writing (we can't act on something that we don't know about)
- Future agenda items: Evaluate as a board adult catching (change in rules); end of season evaluation

## Adjourn Meeting: 8:35

Separate into division meetings

#### **Next Meetings**

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