

# Board of Director's Meeting

## SGV BUA

**7/26/2021 – Zoom meeting**

Roll Call

**Board Members:**

**Jim De La Torre** - President – present

**Jeremy Hamlett** – Vice President - present

**Tim Triplett** — Secretary\Treasurer - present

**Will Fortner** – 2<sup>nd</sup> term - present

**Mike Martinez** – 2<sup>nd</sup> term- present

**Kendall McCarthy** – Instructional Chair – present

**Phil Diprima** – Assigner – present

**Jason Plourde**– 1<sup>st</sup> term- present

**Johnny Villegas** -1<sup>st</sup> term - present

**Jack Johnson** – 2<sup>nd</sup> term - present

Jim called the meeting to order at 6:33pm. **Will motioned to approve the agenda for today 7/26. Mike seconded the motion. Everyone voted on the 7/26 agenda and it was approved.**

**Open Forum:**

- Nothing.

**President's report – Jim De La Torre:**

- Jim said even though Jason isn't at the meeting yet, he wanted to recognize him as being the only representative to work a final. We also had a crew on semi-finals – Phil, Steve Delgado, Richard I. We will discuss playoffs later in the meeting.

**VP's Report - Jeremy Hamlett**

- Nothing to report.

**Secretary\Treasurer report - Tim Triplett:**

- Our ending checking account balance is \$3,318.38. Tim said we are ending much better than we did last year and that's a tribute to the board and everything we have done, the fund raisers Jeremy put on, and getting all the members certified and paid. Tim thanked the board for all that we've done.
- When our account is below \$2000 we have to pay a fee, since our balance has remained above that, we haven't had to pay.
- Tim is going to try to run the financials this year like last year. He will look for any discounts. He will also see if we can continue to pay insurance in payments instead of a lump sum payment.
- Tim submitted all financial documents to Mike.
- Tim also made some updates on the website. Darren is the webmaster for the website and gave Tim access to the site so he can make updates. Tim updated the positions of the board and added all missing minutes. Tim would like to have the calendar and attendance, etc on the website so he doesn't have to send out so many emails. He needs to get more familiar with the website. Tim said we might want to think about moving to a hosted site, but that's a year or so away.
- Jim thanked Tim for all his hard work behind the scenes in getting everything caught up and taking care of things that had been messed up for years.

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### Assignor's report – Phil DiPrima:

- Phil started sending out invoices for assigning fees this past weekend and will send the rest out by the end of the week. The Lancaster crew has finally been paid; they should be receiving their checks any day.
- Phil has already received one partial schedule for the 2022 season. He will be reaching out to AD's for schedules over the next few weeks.
- Phil said the Lancaster crew was Plourde, Galaxio, Ortiz and Delgado.
- Jim asked if any schools had asked for coverage for fall or winter ball. Phil said he has talked to a couple who will be sending their offseason games.

### Instructional Chair report – Kendall McCarthy:

- Nothing to report.
- Jim asked Kendall if he has had many questions regarding his weekly emails. Kendall said no questions, just a few comments. He said more people are reacting to it. Jim said he likes the variety and different topics he covers.

### Committee Reports:

- **Audit Report** – Mike said he had to replace Al Cone due to him having surgery. Mike reached out to Steve Delgado and he assisted Jason Plourde and Mike with reviewing the paperwork from Tim. Mike said everything looked really good, Tim did an excellent job.

### Discussion Items:

1. **Audit Report** – the audit committee overwhelmingly approved the report and would like to submit it to the board for approval for the 2021 season. Mike said there were no changes. Everything was in black and white. Tim will send to the board for approval. Jim asked if the balance Tim gave included all bills for the season being paid including salaries. Tim said yes. Tim asked if the board had to approve the audit report since the audit committee approved it. Mike said last year we didn't do that, only the audit committee approved it and presented it to the board to motion and approve. Jim said the board just has to approve the report. If Tim sends it out by email, the board can approve it by email.
2. **Awards** – Tim said he has the awards and wants to know how we want to recognize the members getting them. Jim said we should send them the awards and publish it through the Arbiter recognition to the award winners. Jack asked if we should wait until the first in person meeting and give them out. Jim said we don't know if we will have in person meetings and we should just go ahead and send them. Tim said he agreed with Jack and thinks we should hold them to pass out in front of the group. Will said he agreed. Tim said we could recognize them even if the first meeting is virtual. Kendall asked if we are planning on having an in-person meeting. Jim said we don't know; we are going backwards as far as covid. We have to wait and see.
3. **2021 Playoffs** – Jim said we were removed from playoff games, a big playoff game due to some things that happened at Arcadia's last home game. Jim said they felt we made mistakes that we shouldn't have and that we didn't have a proper enough crew on that game. Phil gave the explanation, he said there was a bad inning where our crew didn't get some calls right. The crew didn't perform to the standard that is expected at the level of a game and Bob McQueen and Brad Claude were there. Phil said we all make mistakes sometimes, but it was unfortunate in this case that there were CIF eyes that saw it all and it hurt us. Bob McQueen is the one who did the switch of the crews, for many reasons. Will said he is the one who made mistakes in the Arcadia game. He said he overworked his position on third base, he learned from his mistakes and will improve going forward. Will said he wanted to let everyone know it was him that cost us the games and he is very sorry. Jack asked what we can do

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better so it doesn't happen again. Jim said that Louis told Bob and Brad this was his 5<sup>th</sup> straight year working the game and they said that no one should work the same game year after year that many times in a row. Jim said we have to have a rotation. Phil said it was a superficial statement because Louis hasn't worked that game five or six years in a row. Johnny had a suggestion, is there a way to keep our crews together so there is more cohesiveness. With playoff games there is always a new crew or different guys. Is there a way to assign crews to each playoff game instead of just assigning umpires. Jim said it could work but he isn't a fan of it. We should all be well rounded enough that it shouldn't matter. If we are working the proper mechanics, it shouldn't matter who you are working with. You should be able to adjust and work with anyone. Jim said most of it is reading and reacting to your partners. Kendall said our mechanics are flawless the problem is 3 man because we don't do them that much and we think too much. Kendall said that is a factor in our performance. Johnny said he understands what everyone has said but he thinks we could alleviate some problems if we could have crews working the playoffs and move them about as far as how many games we get. Not have the same crew work the same game 2 years in a row. Jack said he didn't think we had enough people to make crews. Phil said we had enough people to make crews, it's just difficult in the early rounds to put guys into the same crew and expect them to succeed from the wild card and first round all the way through. Phil said he didn't think keeping the same crew was doable in the first-round games but the second and quarters and semis it is. He said Johnny brings up a good point. When you work with somebody multiple times there is a lot of familiarity. Johnny suggested maybe putting all the other guys on the first round and as we build these crews together, then when we move up each time these crews that work the first, the second and third, and then they work, it looks better and better and they feel better, and they feel more comfortable working with each other. Phil said he isn't opposed to that, but he can't put our top 12 talent on 4 crews and have lesser guys on the other playoff games. He has to balance it out. Kendall said he plans to include 3-man mechanics in his weekly updates and to have physical 3-man clinics. He said we have to do it more often to get it right. Phil said he agrees the more we do it, the better we will get. People have to put in effort. Guys need to work rec ball games at night or weekends to get practice with 3-man games. Phil said maybe we make a prerequisite that every playoff official put in X amount of hours doing 3 man mechanics on the field. Phil said he and Kendall talked about making 3-man more of the curriculum in the offseason. Johnny said some people don't want to work 3 man games. They are comfortable with 2 and don't want to work playoff games or go any further. Jack asked if the bottom line is that umpires need to keep their mouth shut and we need to get better trained at 3 man. Jim said we need to think more sensibly about assignments, yes don't brag about anything and get better qualified to do 3 man. Jason said he likes what Phil said, in order to be on the playoff list you have to do a 3 man game. Johnny asked if towards the end of the regular season if we couldn't send 3 guys to games but the school doesn't have to pay the 3<sup>rd</sup> guy, we just want them to get experience. Jim said the schools have to approve 3 man we can't just do it. Phil said he could communicate with the schools and he doesn't think they would have a problem with a 3<sup>rd</sup> guy if they didn't have to pay them. Tim said we need to read the Blue Book first. There are rules that say an umpire working games must be paid. Johnny asked if there was a way around it. Tim said we need to read the Blue Book, it may be that if the school doesn't pay, the unit would have to. He isn't sure, we need to check so we don't get into any situations where we are liable. Johnny asked if we can look into it for next meeting. It might help solve some problems we have. Tim said maybe the other two umpires working could each give the 3<sup>rd</sup> guy \$10-20 bucks or something like that. We just need to look into it. Jeremy said he thinks moving forward, there should be an emergency board meeting that gets us all either on zoom or at a meeting because basically it sounds like CIF took our game away, but our board didn't have a voice and we should in something this serious. Jeremy felt the board should have been involved in this process and we should have sent

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something as a board. Jim said it didn't matter because nothing would have changed their mind. Phil said he felt conversations like this should be brought out to the board. He said instead of him going back and forth with Jim, we should have had a board meeting. Jack said he agreed, that's a situation where you may think you have no avenues at all, but still all the avenues need to be addressed as a board, not as an individual or one or two people, it's a board issue, it has come to the board. Phil said all decisions were made by Bob.

4. **Aug thru Dec 2021 Board Meetings** – Mike said he thinks we are getting more out of the Zoom meetings because people can attend even when out of town. We don't have as many absences. Will said he thinks we pay more attention and get more out of the Zoom meetings. Jason said can we do most of them Zoom and maybe one or two in person. Jeremy asked if Mondays at 6:30 still works and everyone said it works. Jason said that it works for him unless he has a student come by and then he would have to step out for 15 min and come back. Jim said that is fine. Everyone agreed to keep it monthly. Jeremy said the meetings would be **Aug 23, Sept 20, Oct 18, and Nov 15**. Tim said we need 5 voting members for quorum. Jeremy said he is fine with Zoom and when we get to Nov we can see what is happening.
5. **2022 Dues** – Jeremy wants to get information out to the members so they can start paying. Tim said the fees are \$105. Jason said he thinks it should be \$105 and after the first of the year \$125. Everyone said that sounds fair. Johnny asked if there was a way on the website for someone to pay half and then later pay the other half so they don't have to pay all at once and avoid late fee. Jim said they have always had that option. They can Venmo - two, three, four - whatever payments to Tim. Tim said he works with all the umpires and anyone who wants to come up with a payment plan, they can. Tim said he thinks we should charge more than \$20 late fee and we need a concrete date to have dues in by. **Jim proposed \$105 up to Dec 31 and \$145 after. Johnny seconded.** Jeremy suggested making it 3 tiers, \$105 between now and the first meeting, \$125 after first meeting to Dec 31 and then \$145 starting Jan 1. **Jim modified his proposal \$105 up to the first meeting, \$125 from first meeting to Dec 31 and \$145 starting Jan 1.** Tim asked for a cutoff date for when they can't be an umpire anymore. Jim said February 1. Tim said we don't want to go into the season with people not qualified. Phil said the season starts Feb 12 and ends April 29. Tim asked to change the cutoff date to Feb 4<sup>th</sup>. **Jim proposed dues are \$105 up until the first meeting, from the first meeting until Dec 31 they will be \$125 and starting Jan 1 to Feb 4 they will be \$145. If you still haven't paid or made arrangements to pay, we will start pulling games. Jeremy moved the motion. Mike seconded the motion. Everyone approved.** Jim asked about Associate fees. He thinks we should raise it because we have people take advantage of it. Jeremy suggested \$90. Tim said we don't give them instructional materials. Jeremy asked how many people took advantage of Associate Dues. Tim said he thinks 7-8 but he would need to go back and look. Associate dues will be tabled until next meeting when we have that information.
6. **Instructional calendar** – Kendall said he does not have dates yet. He will have them for next meeting. Jeremy asked if Kendall was going to present instructional meeting dates as an action item for us to approve next meeting. Jim said yes, dates and possible meeting locations for voluntary in person. Kendall said he is going to plan as we will be in person and adjust to Zoom if it doesn't work out.

### Action Items:

No action items.

Jim asked if the information about dues would go out in email or be posted on Arbiter. Tim said it would be posted on Arbiter and send an email.

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**Jim made a motion that we increase Associate dues to \$90. Jack seconded the motion. Everyone approved.** This will be posted with the other membership dues information. Tim said if they miss paying the \$90 by the first meeting then they will follow the other dues structure. Jim said be sure to put it on the email that goes out about membership dues, if they don't pay by the first meeting then they pay the full membership dues.

**Mike recommended we approve the 2020 audit for the San Gabriel Valley unit as approved by the audit committee. Jack approved. Jason seconded. Everyone voted and approved.**

Tim said next meeting we can discuss how we can use winter ball to do additional work.

Kendall said we were supposed to send a letter out to the schools regarding the racial incident that happened. He asked what happened with that. Jeremy said not everyone responded, there wasn't consensus from the board, so he didn't send it out. He said he thinks it should still go out, maybe beginning of the season. Phil said it should also go to our members.

**Jim adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm.**

Next meeting will be on **Monday, August 23 at 6:30pm.**