

Board of Director's Meeting SGVBUA

1/30/2024

Roll Call

Board Members:

Jeremy Hamlett – President – present

Luis Ortiz – Vice President - present

Tim Triplett — Secretary\Treasurer –present

Will Fortner – 1st term – present

Jason Plourde– 1st term- present

Johnny Villegas -1st term – present

Jack Johnson – 2nd term –absent

Steve Rose –2nd term – present

Instructional Chair – Dax Villalta – present

Assignor – Phil DiPrima -present

Luis called the meeting to order at **6:08pm**. Luis asked if Tim sent the meeting minutes from last week and Tim said he did not. He is still working on them. Luis asked if there was a motion for the agenda. **Will made a motion to approve the agenda**. Jason seconded the motion. Luis asked if there was any discussion. There was none. **Everyone voted and the motion was approved.**

Open Forum:

- Nothing.

President's report – Jeremy Hamlett:

- Nothing to report.

VP's Report – Luis Ortiz

- Luis said he plans to send out the ratings that we had discussed previously to only the members that he had sent out ratings last year. Any new members or transfers, all those guys are not going to get a rating because that's what we agreed upon. Luis plans to send those out this weekend just in time before the season starts.

Secretary\Treasurer report - Tim Triplett:

- Tim said we have about 25 paid members. Our bank balance is somewhere around \$4000. We still have 2 more insurance payments and payments for the IC and Secretary/Treasurer and the banquet to pay. He hopes to close out the account this year with \$3000.

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Assignor – Phil DiPrima

- Phil said he has most of the schedules in from our schools now. He is still missing 3 schools. So if there's anybody that would like to help make phone calls to those athletic directors starting tomorrow morning he would appreciate it. Phil said Jack's not on the call, but he said he would help. If no one can help, he can ask Jack. Jason asked what schools. Phil said Gabrielino, Muir and Santa Monica Academy. Jason said he would call. Phil said he has uploaded schedules for 7 schools into the arbiter. He plans on pounding out the rest between tonight and tomorrow. Once they're all in, he will start putting assignments out asap. Starting with opening day the first couple of weeks and he will just keep pushing that out. Phil said he will probably within the next 3 days have at least the first couple of weeks out, and then he will just keep pushing it from there as far as that goes.
- Phil asked Dax if he wanted both sessions for his cage time. Dax said yes. Phil said he will confirm tonight that they are available and let everyone know.

IC - Dax Villalta

- Dax said this Saturday we had our field clinic. Initially, we were scheduled to be at South Pasadena High School because the loss of competing team that had to be moved. Thanks to Phil. We had a location to go to Arcadia County Park. Lasalle played 2 games. He said the final count of those in attendance. I think it was 9, 19 maybe off by a number or 2. We had 2 people that know showed huff and spears. Both confirmed, requesting Rsvp that they would show up. Neither of those 2 showed up. Kai Nakamura was there as a guest instructor, and Kai did a lot of the heavy lifting talking, one on one breaking down. Each umpire has a 2 man crew and they got approximately 2 full innings. hey all got 2 full innings of work nearly the majority got placed in bait played in bass. We had a lot of good dynamic learning guys showed up at I think 30 A. M. We did some formation drills focusing on losing using your voice and using a mechanic things that he articulated on Saturday. We're not accustomed to speaking that way in our normal daily lives. So it's unnatural thing to do getting guys comfortable with doing that was pretty important mirroring, echoing, using their voice. Live ball feedback. The 2 standouts from Saturday. We're oddly enough, to guys have never worked bases before. Aaron Parker and Ryan Attendco. I think we have 2 really good building blocks around those guys. Neither one of them had a plate gear. The other only had base gear. And the reason I think, that they're major building blocks is they're self-taught guys. They've never had any training before. And at 1 point I stepped on the field. touch of the hip, touch the shoulder, giving them one on one information. Those you that were there will remember that one of the main reasons that happens because we need to know who those guys were. It was a means of breaking the ice and getting to know who they were. But just giving them some very small direction yielded major results. I mean complied with everything that was asked of them. The most amazing part of everything was there no rebuttals as to why this or why, that I do this, and I do that. It was adjusting on the fly

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to immediate information which was really amazing. I think with some attention to helping develop those guys. I think we have 2 building blocks that we can build around which is really good. There was a transfer David Vasquez, I believe formerly from inland. has a lot of training from some of the guys who do the training in inland who I know personally, black and blue guys, he's another building block a lot of the veterans got some good information. Focusing on some of the the poes mechanically, that we need to focus on this year. It was a good showing. I would have liked to see more but we'll take what we can get. Unfortunately as part of our discussion, we'll talk about the guys that are 0 to 3 h earlier. Today, I reached out to Phil. He set up some cage time for us. I will do it on Sunday this coming Sunday, and hopefully a super bowl Sunday. And I realize that super Bowl Sunday. But some guys going to have to make some really tough decisions on whether they want to be compliant, or they want to watch super bowl. That's entirely up to them. That's on my personal time. As we all know, our personal time with our families is extremely valuable on Sundays, but I'm willing to take that step to make sure we can get as many guys in attendance to meet their clinic certification as well Certification test. Window opens up tomorrow closes on the tenth. We have set the seventh as a deadline for our guys. I'll make an announcement about that tonight reminding people to go in. That leaves the study guide open ended. As to how we are going to verify that they completed their study guide. We never got around to the Google document. The greatest marker as to how, whether or not they completed it will be their certification tests. Those that didn't complete it probably aren't going to pass Those that do are probably going to pass because the exam is taken directly from the study guide. The only other thing that I have to report is I managed to recruit a couple more guys upper-level baseball guys. Phil's got their contact information. I believe he's added them to the arbiter. Machado and Sanchez all are certifying through the LA. City groups. The problem with that is that they will have to take the CBUA test because the La unit is not part of the CBUA. They generate their own study guide, they generate their own test. We will accept all their certification hours, as is indicated by our bylaws. But they must take the CBUA certification exam online. Tim asked Dax to ask the guys to get their information transferred to him via their Secretary/Treasurer. Dax said he would. Tim said the only thing we really need from them is a Classification Exam.

- Dax said he has a Guest Speaker Greg Rogers. Who is a protege of his. He was Dax vice chair in San Fernando for a number of years. He's going to speak on being a nuts and bolts ground up self taught guy who took on the game and took on instruction with the CBUA group Disney world. He's a really good example to our young membership as to how, what, when, and where is required of a novice umpire, with no training, no background, and being able to make the client for those that wanna make the climb. It will be equally informative for those who just need to hear what it takes to be a certified umpire to be able to work at the high school level. Beyond that, we're gonna look at a lot of videos on taking place at the plate and little a few other bits of video instruction clip.

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Committee Reports – none

Discussion Items:

- **2024 Assignments Update & Timeline** –Phil provided an update above. Jeremy asked Phil what his plan is to get through the season. Is it going to be every couple of weeks that new games come out. He asked if he thought he would get the whole season done by a certain date. He said he is curious what the plan is to get the entire season assigned, and like what timelines or milestones would be included with that. Tim said he agrees with Jeremy. Dax said we're on the eve of starting the season and we need to figure out what is going to happen with these umpires who have 0-3 hours, who haven't showed up to the mandated training. What are we going to do? Last week he put together an auxiliary curriculum to give parties an opportunity. He has a slide with that information. He has concerns about these guys getting certified. Dax said he setup a makeup Zoom meeting for next Monday the 12th. He asked if Tim could set that up and Tim said yes. Dax said he would send an email out to those who are in other units so we can get their credits from those groups. Jeremy repeated his question above when Phil was back on and Phil said his first deadline is within the next 2 to 3 days. Get the first couple of those weeks of the season out. Then between now and the start of the season get everything out, by the start of February tenth get the entire season assigned. Jeremy asked if he could have everything scheduled by start of the season. Phil said he hopes so.
- **Attendance sheet review** – Tim displayed the spreadsheet and said he removed anyone who had 0 hours. Jeremy asked if any of them were in Arbiter. Tim said he would have to confirm. Tim said he didn't remove them he just hid them so they are still there. Dax asked if the guys with 0 hours could be put in a separate column and we could follow up with them. Tim said yes. Dax said it doesn't matter how but we need a list of the 0 people. Phil asked if the google sheet Jeremy shared with everyone is editable so we can make notes. Jeremy said he can make it that way. Jeremy asked if any names jumped out. Tim said Darren, he said he wasn't coming back. Phil said Darren emailed him after and said Tim talked him into staying and helping with a few games. Jason said he spoke to Jonathan Huff, said he wanted to do it and then he didn't show up at the clinic. Jason said he reached out to Paul Randa (?) several times, voicemails, texts, etc and he has responded back. Johnny reached out to Teddy and has not gotten any response. Jason spoke to Theo and he will not be coming back. Tim said Dax put together a sheet that gives hours. We need to direct those that need hours to that memo he sent out and point them to Dax. Tim said every year this is an issue. We have to figure out a better way to tackle this and somehow get how important it is to everyone. Tim said maybe we need to start contacting people earlier. Will asked if this year is worse, Tim said no. It was the same last year. Jeremy said it's football and it's basketball. The officials know that they have us over a barrel. They know that we need them and that we're going to need a body at some point to put on a Jv. Game at 3:00'clock on a Thursday, and that Phils going to reach out to them to help with that game. And to be honest, it's like they're taking advantage of that because they know the shortage, and they're working it to their advantage. Jeremy said in self reflection, as the leadership of this board, he went back and saw what we did. We put all that information out there as a board.

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We've discussed about making things easier. Even tonight we could have easily move this to tomorrow Thursday as an in person, but we made it a zoom which is making it even easier. And to Dax's Point there's going to be 18 guys on the call and 8 of them are us. So even all this stuff that we're trying to do to make things easier, we're giving them credit for taking the classification exam. We're giving them all this other stuff. They're just not holding up their end of the bargain and going back to what Dax put out last week, and what Tim sent out from the draft he text that he created. We told folks, if you're short on hours reach out to Dax. Nobody reached out to him. Even so now we've led them to the water, and we've given them 4 places to drink and they're refusing the drink in each area that we're giving them, because we specifically said in there, if you need help, with hours outside of these remaining hours reach out to Dax, and not one person reached out to Dax. We're just beating the dead horse, but it's just symptomatic of what's going on in the officiating profession right now, and they know where they have us, and they've cornered us, and there's not much we can do at some point. Phil's gonna need to put a body on a game. What as a board are we willing to do, regardless of certification hours, score on the test. What are we willing to be flexible on to get Phil a body for a Jv. Game at San Gabriel that we know is going to be a mercy game. Will said we're gonna lose all our 2 man JV and freshman games. They're gonna go to one man. And then the other thing about it is, is the credibility and the pride that people should have, and within our unit, and and carrying themselves on the field, we lose that it, as well because of their excuse. Dax said we're mandated to instruct the members on our staff on the rules, rule modifications, and safety procedures for the incumbent season. We are legally certifying that they have legally received the information so that they could go out there and proceed as best they can. The thin line that we're having to traverse right now is Phil's going to need bodies to put them on those games, and you know, God forbid we have an umpire who had 0 to 3 h, and didn't receive some sort of the training, and something happens on that game. What we're trying to do is we're trying to prevent a serious situation from happening. We can't just throw caution to the wind and hope that nothing happens, even though the potential for that game to be a nothing. Jeremy said we need to make sure that we cross reference who we are removing from the 0, 1, 3 hours and making sure that they're not in the arbiter. If that's a collaboration with Phil or Tim. Tim will verify the spreadsheet with those in Arbiter. Phil said a lot of the guys are not in the Arbiter. Dax asked what parameters are we going to use to allow Phil to staff these games. Johnny said he doesn't think that it's fair for us to decide that these guys, just because they're not doing it, that they just don't care. He feels there are other opportunities out there that people are taking. Not everyone does it because they love baseball. Those who are doing it for money can get \$20 at McDonalds. We have to be creative with how to get them the required 18 hrs to work. Dax said that is what he is asking. What do we with those people who have bare minimal compliance. How are we getting all our games covered. Tim said the parameters are there. They're certified, or they're not. If they're not certified. They don't work. We've never deviated from that. If they are not certified, schedules need to be pulled. Dax said that someone from the board needs to mention at tonight's meeting if you have 0 to 3 hours you are running the risk of having your schedule pulled. Jason asked how many umpires we need to get through a season. Phil said we did it last year

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with high 30's low 40's. Jason asked how many non-certified guys did we use. Phil said he does know there were a handful of games that he sent noncertified guys to. He did not run through our unit, he ran them through his own association. Jason asked if we told the schools that for this year and this year alone, that lower levels are going to be one-man games would we be able to cover the season. Phil said he doesn't know. Jason said we need to call their bluff. Phil said other units are short too. He said we need to work to get our guys certified or we have to let schools know we don't have enough guys. Tim said he doesn't know if anyone can take the classification exam after it is closed. Dax said no, there was a very hard directive. He will not extend the classification window. Phil said in past seasons we could still administer hours, study guides and tests to certify the member after that deadline date. They just would not be eligible for later rounds of playoffs. Dax said that was a misapplication of what that is. Jeremy said most people at the meeting probably are on the good list so we can mention it but we need to send an email so everyone else sees it. He thinks we need to say, if you have not paid your dues, and provided your insurance you are not going to get any games assigned until you pay your dues and provide insurance. The second part is by the start of the season, the tenth you need have all your hours, and the and the exam done. You have to be certified by the 10th. Jeremy said we could have an emergency board meeting next week. Dax said we should send an email out via arbiter to all those with minimal compliance. Jeremy agreed. He said you have to pay and show insurance if you want to get anything assigned, and then, by the time the season starts you have to have passed the classification exam and completed your hours, 18 or 21 hrs whichever applies to you. Anyone short on hours, needs to talk to Dax.

- **Study Guide & Classification Exam Update –**
- **Elections –** Jeremy suggested that even though there's no real election cause there's no candidates other than the ones that already have spots. He still thinks they should give a little 1 min spill about experience and why they want to be on the board. If everybody's cool with that, Louie can manage that.
- **Super Bowl Pool update –**

Action Items:

- **Elections**

Next board meeting is Monday, 2/26 at 5:00pm in person.

Jeremy adjourned the meeting at 6:31 pm.